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Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXV, No. 1

Section 1

October 2, 1939

U.S. GAINS IN COTTON-RUBBER AGREEMENT Uncle Sam's agreement to swap 600,000 bales of surplus cotton to John Bull for 82,000 tons of rubber is beginning to look like a clever Yankee deal. At current prices, Samuel already has a \$20,000,000 advantage. When the agreement was signed last June 23, those quantities of cotton and rubber were of about equal value in world markets. But the war has changed that. Rubber, being a highly important war material, has increased in value nearly 50 percent since the deal was made. The New York price has advanced from 15.48 cents a pound to 21 cents. On the other hand, cotton has declined from 9.58 cents a pound to 8.85. (Associated Press.)

FARMERS' INCOME Cash income of the American farmer for 1939 probably will exceed \$7,900,000,000, the Government's previous hopeful estimate for the year, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics said yesterday. Domestic demands and agricultural prices are rising, the bureau noted, and, though initial speculative war gains in commodity prices already have been lost, continuation of the improved domestic consumer needs is counted upon. (International News Service.)

WEATHER REPORTS AT SEA The European war may hasten governmental establishment of new safety and rescue facilities for transatlantic air travel. Three Federal agencies, the Coast Guard, Weather Bureau and Civil Aeronautics Authority, are studying the problems imposed by the struggle. Chief among these is the cessation of weather reports to the government from the belligerent countries, as well as from foreign ships. One proposed solution of the problem calls for stationing six or eight ships in the Atlantic equipped with meteorological instruments and capable of rescue duty. The Weather Bureau would furnish the meteorological equipment and personnel. Interruption of weather reports from abroad came in the midst of the Weather Bureau's expansion program, designed in large part to give aviation better flying data. F. W. Reichelderfer, new chief of the Weather Bureau, said that meteorological observations of the patrol ships in the Atlantic could be supplemented by automatic weather reporting devices. He explained that some had been developed which would report by radio the temperature, barometric pressure, humidity, wind direction and velocity. It might be possible, too, he said, that such automatic stations could be made to report visibility conditions. (New York Times.)

Destruction

Dunshee, in which he says in part: "The damage caused by

Destroy the ribes and save the pines! This sounds like a simple measure of control but it is a tremendous task, for there are about fifteen million acres of commercially valuable white and sugar pines in the United States. In California and Oregon sugar pine is an important forest tree on some three million acres of forest land. Currant and gooseberry bushes are also native and more or less abundant on a large proportion of this area. Their eradication is therefore a large undertaking, and the southward spread of blister rust from Oregon into California is already taking place at such a rapid rate that time is pressing....The blister rust control program is now in active progress in the sugar pine region of California and Oregon. The federal government, working through the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine and the Forest Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture as well as the National Park Service of the Department of Interior, is vigorously applying control measures to save the magnificent sugar pine forests of the Sierra Nevada and southern Cascades. Success depends upon continued large-scale eradication of ribes during the next few years and the active cooperation of public, state, and private agencies in this work".

An editorial in the Utah Farmer (September 25) reads

Agriculture

in part as follows: "Even with the depressions we have

had, the low prices of farm products, and the problems we have had to meet, we believe there is a great future for those who till the soil. With new information, new ideas, new determination, new energy, new devotion, you can bring forth new opportunities, new developments and new and profitable sources of farm income. Make every effort

to get out of the ruts. Read of what others are doing. Visit other farmers, you may gain ideas that will help you. There is a future for farming, like other industries the one who succeeds is one who takes advantage of every resource of the farm".

This publication also contains another editorial, which says: "We are living in a day when many changes are taking place in agriculture. Wonders are being accomplished in the development of hybrids of all kinds. Scientists are crossing one breed of animals with another with unusual results. In the horticultural field they are crossing the dewberry with the raspberry and producing the boysenberry. They are crossing one kind of a chicken with another kind to develop a certain color of flesh or meat...Just where all this development and crossing is going to end no one seems to know. One thing is very sure, if you want to keep up to date and know what is going on in farming you must read about it. New things are happening all the time. We have suggested only enough of these new changes to let you know that farming today is not what it was a few years ago."

Precocity in Fall Pullets It is felt by a good many that the best and highest egg producers in a flock of poultry are almost invariably those that start the laying year early and get under way during the first 3 months at a fairly high rate of production. Dr. W.C. Thompson, of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, states that there is evidence to show that such precocity in pullets is largely inherited and that because of this it is a good plan for practical poultrymen to mark the pullets that are going into production in the fall so that they may be identified later and used as breeders the following year. He says, "With flocks that are so hatched and reared as to go into egg yield in early October, as is the case in most New Jersey districts, it is necessary to know what rate and what amount of production is necessary in order that individuals may be termed precocious layers. If the pullets are not managed under artificial lights, precocious production might be described as being at least 10 eggs per bird for November, and 14 per bird for December. If the pullets are managed under artificial lights and are given a 13-hour lighted day and the proper management to go with it, these minimum production figures might be expected to rise by one egg for October, 2 eggs for November, and 2 or 3 eggs for December." (American Poultry Journal, October).

Tropical Fruit Development of the first mangosteen orchard in the Americas has been accomplished by the Panama Canal Zone Experimental Gardens in Panama and is declared to prove that the fragile and luscious fruit of the Oriental tropics can be made to thrive there. Experts declare that the quality and flavor of the fruit will be popular in America when it can be produced commercially. (Evening Star, September 29).

Congress, The SENATE received financial reports and other
Sept. 28 information from the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation
 and the Tennessee Valley Associated Cooperatives, Inc.,
pursuant to S.Res.150 (S.Doc.132.) (p. 69.)

Both Houses received from the Secretary of Agriculture proposed legislation to prevent the dissemination of pullorum and other poultry diseases, and to improve poultry and hatcheries; to Senate Com. on Agriculture and Forestry and House Com. on Agriculture. (pp. 70, 82.)

The Senate received from the Acting Secretary of Agriculture proposed legislation to permit the Department to deduct all expenses from the proceeds of the sale of surplus agricultural commodities, including animals; to Com. on Agri. and Forestry. (p. 70.)

Received the annual report of the Extension Service for 1938; to Com. on Agriculture and Forestry. (p. 70.)

The Senate adjourned until Monday, Oct. 2, at which time debate on the neutrality bill is expected to begin. (pp. 72-73.)

The HOUSE received a letter from the Secretary of Agriculture transmitting proposed legislation to facilitate and simplify national forest administration; to Com. on Agriculture. (p. 82.)

The House adjourned until Monday, Oct. 2.

(Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Disposing of For a mile and a half along the river bank near
Cull Oranges Placentia, Orange County, (California), a pile of frosted
 low grade and partly spoiled oranges lies rotting in the
sun, says the California Cultivator (September 23.) "Their slow decomposition is causing a real problem. The wastefulness of the process, even though they cannot be used for human food, is a matter of deep concern. Now apparently a machine has been perfected that will convert the oranges into a condition that will permit them to be easily worked back into the soil for fertilizer. Disking oranges under has not been particularly successful. Decomposition of the whole orange is slow and there is some odor noticeable. With the new machine the oranges are shredded and the resulting mass is soft and easy to handle. The pulp drops into a hopper from which it is run into dump trucks and hauled to the orchards. By raising the end board only a short distance, the soft, watery mass of pulp can be evenly distributed over the soil. After a day or two the juice has soaked into the ground and the dry mass remaining can be turned under successfully. Tests show that the pulp has some fertilizer value and this new method of handling eliminates the cost of hauling the oranges to the dump. The total difference will mean thousands of dollars to the orange growing industry..."

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXV, No. 2

Section 1

October 3, 1939

EVANS ON GRANARY PLAN R. M. Evans, Administrator of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, declared yesterday that the "ever-normal granary" is the keystone of the A.A.A. farm program and that the government is "not surrendering for a moment the fundamentals in national farm policy for which we have worked so hard these six and a half years." High prices for farm products are still one of the chief aims of the administration, he said. Mr. Evans spoke before the annual convention of the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies which opened in Chicago yesterday. "An integral part of the plan for abundance is, of course, the carrying of ample reserves for our major crops," Mr. Evans said. "This plan is made effective through commodity loans to encourage farmers to hold their crops from one year to another and also, in the case of wheat, is made effective through crop insurance reserves." (New York Herald Tribune.)

FOOD STAMPS IN RURAL AREA Completely satisfied with the functioning of the food-stamp plan in Rochester, the New York State Department of Social Welfare has asked the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation to test the plan in a rural county up-State as a possible preliminary to establishment of the program on a State-wide basis, it became known recently. No decision on the request has yet been received from Washington. (New York Times.)

U.S. TRADE AGREEMENT WITH CHILE Intention to negotiate a reciprocal trade agreement with Chile which may involve lowering of duties on seasonal fresh fruits and vegetables, spermaceti wax, copper ore and products, while freezing on the free list fertilizer chemicals, crude drugs, iron ore, furs and skins was announced last night by the State Department. The Committee for Reciprocity Information issued simultaneously a notice setting the closing date for submission of briefs on the proposed agreement and for receiving applications to be heard November 11 and opening date of public hearings November 27. Notice of intention to negotiate the agreement pointed out that in view of the geographical position of Chile where agricultural production and marketing seasons differ from those in the United States, particular considerations will be given to the possibility of seasonal limitations on any concessions which may be made on such products. (Journal of Commerce.)

Community Forests Pay

The State has from time to time invited South Carolinians to look into the desirability of community forests, says the Columbia S.C. State. Most persons are aware that in Europe many communities pay in large part, in not a few instances altogether, their public expenses out of the profits of such publicly owned woodlands; but there seems to prevail vaguely a notion that such enterprises are not practicable in this country. The fact is they are specially practicable in the Southeastern states of this country and particularly in the Carolinas and Georgia, because of the rapid rate at which timber grows here. Steady gains in number, size and usefulness of community forest enterprises in the United States are being reported to the federal forest service, Forest Specialist Buhler has recently said. "New community forests are constantly being established," he said. "Although there are now more than 1,500 in the United States, new community forests were established this year in Florida, North Dakota, Virginia, Illinois, Michigan, Georgia, North Carolina, and a number of other states." Among the reason given by communities for starting local public forests, Mr. Buhler has found, is the value of such undertakings as a profitable community investment which will bring returns in timber sales, will provide recreational areas, outlets for unemployment, protection for watersheds, refuges for wildlife, and improved community environment....A community which establishes a forest of 2,000 acres might have a property valued at \$100,000 at the end of 30 years, in Mr. Buhler's opinion, since such a forest is conservatively estimated to increase in value at the rate of a dollar per acre per year, if properly managed and protected. In some cases, he pointed out, returns would be much higher, depending upon the species and growth, nearness to market, management and other factors..."

"Sick" Wheat

"Of the seven classes of 'damage' described by the U.S. Department of Agriculture as found in grading wheat the unofficial designation 'sick' as applied to kernels means that the germ is dead and the protein has lost its quality," says The Grain Dealers Journal, (September 27). "Such wheat, altho otherwise presenting a handsome appearance, is no good to the miller and must be graded down to 'sample' when the total damaged kernels exceed 15 per cent. To the eye sick wheat has a discoloration of the body of the kernel (slightly heat-damaged but not materially discolored from heat) as a result of incipient fermentation, or has a moldy or materially damaged appearance of the germ, or mold in the crease. To know sick wheat when he sees it the grain dealer must have previously familiarized himself with its appearance by study of samples. Sick wheat will get by the unwary. Wheat gets sick when stored at 15 percent moisture and temperatures of 75 to 85 degrees Fahr., so fermentation proceeds slowly. If arrested at this point the wheat may lose the wet or dank odor, but the damage has been done....."

Skinning Before peanuts can be used as a food, the unpalatable
Peanuts reddish-brown skin which closely covers the nut must be removed. This has been a problem in the manufacture of peanut products. Home economists in the Federal Department of Agriculture now have developed a commercially practical way to remove the skins with low weight loss and no splitting, and still have a nut high in quality. They believe this method will improve the keeping quality and flavor of peanuts and increase their consumption. The shelled nuts are dipped in a 1 percent hot lye (sodium hydroxide) solution for about 8 seconds, just long enough to moisten the skins. They are then dipped immediately into a cold 1 percent solution of hydrochloric acid to reset the dissolved pigment in the skins and thus keep it from staining the nuts. The nuts are then rinsed in cold water and the skins easily removed by hand. The nuts are dried at room temperature before storage. Peanuts skinned in this way retain their smoothness and loss and keep much longer than those blanched either with hot air or hot water. The weight loss is low -- 3 to 6 percent as compared with around 18 percent for the usual commercial hot-air treatment.

New Cotton New yarns woven to exacting specifications soon will
Hosiery Yarn be available for expanded research in cotton hosiery, the National Cotton Council announces, according to the Jackson, Mississippi News, (September 24). Arrangements for manufacturers of the new yarn have been completed by the Council in cooperation with the Southern Combed Yarn Spinners Association and the Department of Agriculture. Rapid progress in improvement of cotton hosiery has been made during the past year through experiments in spinning which have been conducted by Miss Ruth O'Brien, chief of the division of textiles and clothing at the Department of Agriculture. Full-fashioned hose in a variety of weights and designs not heretofore available in cotton were announced by Miss O'Brien during early summer. Still further development is expected following successful manufacture of a new yarn woven to Department of Agriculture specifications. Preliminary work already is under way in a Southern mill.

Soybeans The abnormally dry weather of the Summer of 1939
Survive furnished a convincing demonstration of the value of soy
Drought beans as an emergency forage crop suitable for both hay and silage and able to grow when pastures burn and ordinary hay crops wilt, according to Dr. Howard B. Sprague, agronomist at the State Agricultural Experiment Station, Rutgers University. Soy beans are also increasing in popularity as a soil-improving green manure crop which fits well into a wide variety of rotations. Soybean acreage is steadily increasing in the State, and Dr. Sprague predicts that this trend will continue, especially if processing facilities are established. (New York Times.)

Bean "Infested beans have caused much trouble to those
Weevil who keep them in storage," says Grain & Feed Journals,
 (September 27). "Often the insects leave the germ to be
eaten last or avoid it altogether. Consequently, while the weevils are
common and destructive germination tests of seeds that have been treated
as soon as the injury was discovered usually make a good showing. The
seedlings, however, may be backward because the nourishment has been
lost. The bean weevil causes a great amount of damage to beans in stor-
age, according to Harold H. Shepard of the Minnesota Agricultural Experi-
ment Station who says:If the temperature is high the life cycle
may be only about thirty days. The fact that the pest continues to breed
while the beans are in storage, makes it serious. If the temperature is
high enough, the adults will emerge thruout the winter and lay their eggs
loosely among the dry beans. Thus they multiply thruout the year and if
not checked will destroy the beans entirely. Several related weevils
which infest beans and cowpeas in the South attach their eggs to the
surface of the bean. If the beans are infested, the weevils should be
killed at once. This may be done by fumigating with a gas or by heating
the beans. If the beans are stored over winter where the temperature
is less than 40 degrees F., weevils will not develop even if they are
present. If beans or peas are stored in heavy cotton sacks rather than
loosely woven bags, weevils can not spread from infested lots to un-
infested ones."

Tumbleweed Tumbling tumbleweeds are coming to be looked upon as
Used as Hay an asset rather than a liability in the southwestern plains
 area where once they were reminders of "dust bowl" condi-
tions, says the Denver Post, (September 22). Back in the days of the
black blizzards and choking dust storms the strong winds which lifted
the soil also snapped the dry thistlelike bushes from their roots and
sent them bouncing crazily across fields, pastures and roads to lodge
against barbed-wire fences, buildings and other obstructions. With the
tumbleweed piling up against such obstruction, it was not long before
the wind-driven soil accumulated in vast quantities against the "dams"
and cause large drifts and dust dunes to accumulate. But today, soil
conservation service officials said, many farmers of eastern Colorado,
New Mexico, Kansas, Texas and Oklahoma have learned that by mowing the
thistles while still green they can provide hay which will carry their
livestock thru a bad winter, and that the thistle roots and stubble left
in the ground will retain their anchorage against the force of strong
winds and thereby provide protection to the soil.

REA Lines Sixty-two percent of the rural electric lines fin-
Buy Power anced to date by the Rural Electrification Administration
 purchase from private power companies the energy which
they distribute. Less than 2 percent of Rural Electrification funds
have been allotted for the construction of generating plants and generat-
ing equipment.

DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

October 4, 1939

PAN-AMERICAN Undersecretary of Commerce Edward J. Noble told a
TRADE PARLEY Latin American trade conference yesterday that "quick profits" should be sacrificed to increase permanent commerce between the United States and the other 20 republics in this hemisphere. Opening a discussion between businessmen and federal experts about the effect of the European war on Latin America, Mr. Noble said: "The countries to the south of us are cut off from many of their important markets. They are turning to us more than ever as a source of supply and a market for their products...We realize that war is an abnormal situation which eventually must pass...We wish to have a healthy program based not on short-term profits, but rather on increased trade in normal as well as abnormal times..." (A.P.)

CCC INTEREST The interest rate to farmers on all Commodity Credit
RATE LOWERED Corporation loans will be reduced from 4 to 3 percent, effective November 1. Secretary Wallace estimated that the interest rate reduction would save farmers approximately \$4,500,000 annually on loans now outstanding. He said the reduction was based on an understanding that grew out of a conference between representatives of the American Bankers Association and officials of the Commodity Credit Corporation. (A.P.)

EGG FUTURES All September records for egg futures trading on the
TRADING Chicago Mercantile Exchange were broken last month, Lloyd S. Tenny, business manager, said yesterday. Swelled by war market buying early in the month and later by transfer operations, volume rose to 105,132,000 dozens, compared with about 2,000,000 a year ago and a 10-year average of about 60,000,000. (A.P.)

SOYBEAN Stabilization of the soybean market, depressed slightly
MARKET ly for several days through prevalence of beans with drought-induced green centers, was reported yesterday by G. G. McElroy, president of the American Soybean Association. He said the green-centered beans, at first believed inferior, now were considered equal to yellow-centered beans and were not lowering prices. (A.P.)

Measuring Dr. Howard J. Dittmer of the State University of
Roots in Soil Iowa has made some interesting measurements on the
 roots of oats, winter rye and bluegrass contained in
cylindrical blocks of soil three inches in diameter and six inches
deep, punched out with a soil sample cutter. Each of the samples con-
sisted of 42 cubic inches of soil, or about two-thirds of a quart, dry
measure. In that small quantity Dr. Dittmer found a total of 150 feet
of oat roots and their branches, 210 feet of winter rye roots, and
1,250 feet of bluegrass roots. Even more impressive are the figures
for root-hairs, which are microscopic finger-like cells projecting from
the root surface. They are the plant's chief water-absorbing organs.
In one of his three-by-six-inch soil blocks, Dr. Dittmer estimated,
there were 6,300,000 oat root-hairs, with a total length of 4.9 miles
and a surface area of 3.7 square feet. Corresponding figures for
winter rye are 12,500,000 root-hairs, length 10.4 miles, surface 8.2
square feet; for bluegrass, 51,500,000 root-hairs, length 32 miles,
surface 16.9 square feet. (Science Service.)

Movies on "Seeing" in most cases "is believing." At least
the Farm better farm practices that require little or no capital
 and yet improve farm income, fires the desire of every-
body to adopt similar practices. But in Catoosa, Whitfield, and
Walker counties, Ga., the results on 80 demonstration farms were not
being visited and studied by a majority of the people in the different
communities, so leaders are carrying the demonstrations to the people
instead of carrying the people to the demonstrations. Locally made
motion pictures have proved the way to do it. When early in 1939 a
group of farmers on the program-planning committee were asked, "What
enterprise will best serve the agricultural interest of Northwest
Georgia?" the answer was, "Locally made motion pictures that can be
shown in every community regularly." Farmers themselves purchased
the equipment. More than 3,000 farm people in 20 communities are
seeing the shows each month. And there is actually a "bank night"
but the payoff is in forest tree seedlings from the TVA and everybody
wins. The first picture, a 30-minute show in natural color, showed
how the demonstrators on these 80 farms have advanced their soil
building and higher standard of living program. Another film being
planned will deal with the tenant-landlord problem, another with re-
forestation, another with better lighting for the farm home, and still
another with stories of forests as applied to Northwest Georgia.
(Progressive Farmer.)

Congress, The SENATE began debate on H. J. Res. 306, neutrality
October 3. bill, which was reported with amendments from the Committee on Foreign Relations on September 29 during adjournment. (S. Rept. 1155.) (pp. 125, 127-154.)

The HOUSE adjourned until Thursday, October 5, almost immediately after convening. (p. 160.) (Prepared by Office of Budget & Finance.)

Substitutes Mankind may be faced in a "measurably near future" for Minerals with finding substitutes for coal and petroleum as sources of power. Investigation of the possibilities of farm-grown supplies of starch and cellulose as supplements to or substitutes for "irreplaceable natural resources" will be one of the long-term research efforts of the four regional laboratories of the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering now under construction. "To an extent not commonly realized," Dr. P. A. Wells, director of the eastern laboratory, said recently, "the broadening range of human wants has been supplied from irreplaceable natural resources--the mineral or fossil products of our mines and deep wells. So far as we can now foresee, civilization will never be free from its dependence upon some of these essential minerals. But the conviction is growing that to some large degree--how large it would be foolish to guess--many of our present requirements can be shifted to a less precarious basis. The most fundamental problem of all, mankind's rapidly growing utilization of heat energy, is an outstanding illustration. To all but a minor extent, civilization today rests upon the rapid utilization of fossil forms of solar energy--coal and petroleum. Use of the current supply of solar energy, stored as starch or cellulose by living vegetation, may become a vital matter in the measurably near future. Long before exhaustion of mineral reserves approaches, technological advances in the one field, or increasing difficulty and cost of extraction in the other, doubtless will lead to an increased dependence upon agricultural products for many other than their traditional uses."

New Farm Manufacturers have come to the aid of the farmer
Implement again, this time with an efficient and moderately priced product called the bindweed eradicator and field cultivator, according to the Daily Oklahoman (September 24). As many farmers know, the bindweed is the most vicious enemy of the soil in many states. Once it is allowed to take hold, the weed is almost impossible to exterminate, due to its deep and extensive root system. For this reason the manufacturer has designed an eradicator which they say will rid fields of not only the bindweed, but all weeds as well.

Land-Use
Planning

Consumers' Guide for September contains an article
"Making Plans Grow Like Plants", which says in part:

"County and State land-use planning committees are workshops in which farmers, technical experts, and administrators of farm programs pool their wisdom and experience; work out detailed analyses of the land resources and needs of their own communities; scrutinize plans for aid in their communities; and adjust programs to the necessities of their own people. They are a brand new venture in citizen collaboration. Each collaborator has his own contribution to make to better land use. Each has something to learn from the other. Together, their talents are multiplied and their forces generate new energy for the building of a sounder, healthier agriculture....Goal of the county land-use planning program is the development of active farm committees in every agricultural county in the United States. Because conditions affecting agriculture don't stop at county lines, planning must be done, too, by States; so State land-use planning committees are forming. State committees have the job not only of stimulating the work of county committees but also of advising on its direction and coordination. Just as weather and water and markets and prices flow over county lines, so they move over State lines. To be sound, State land plans need to be related to each other and to Federal program. Central clearing house for this is the newly reorganized Bureau of Agricultural Economics. It is through this Bureau that the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperates with the State Agricultural Colleges, and with State and county governments in the planning job."

Grasses May
Curb Dust

On 5,000 acres of land of the southern great plains field station of the United States department of agriculture here a multitude of experiments are being carried on that may result in the reclaiming of the west, says the Daily Oklahoman (September 24). On a good number of these acres, in nurseries, plots and fields, are growing a total of 521 species of grass and 75,775 isolated plants. Native grasses of the region -- buffalo, grama, bluestem, sandgrass -- are being studied to discover methods through which cultivated fields of the plains may be returned to grass and the native range may be improved. Success of the investigations here, coupled with the work at half a dozen other plains experiment stations, would point the way to solving the soil-blowing problem, balance wheat farming with livestock raising and give the plains a more dependable and lucrative type of agriculture. Grass breeding, vegetation of cultivated land, and improvement of range lands are the three major lines of grass research being conducted. The results of these studies, together with those obtained from comprehensive tests of crop rotation, tillage operation, farm machinery, sorghum and broomcorn breeding, wheat and small grain improvement, dairy feeding and breeding, the United States Department of Agriculture believes will be the key to a more diversified and permanently successful system of agriculture in the southwest.....

DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

October 5, 1939

WALLACE Secretary Wallace, in an address yesterday to tobacco
ADDRESSES growers, warehousemen and others at Kinston, N.C., said
TOBACCO MEN in part: "In working out a consistent policy for the bright tobacco area, warehousemen and all business and professional men, as well as farmers, have a direct interest and responsibility.

"The first point in such a policy, it seems to me, is recognition of the fact that a good income from the growing of tobacco can best be obtained by purposely making necessary adjustments to keep supplies in line with demand rather than by reducing surplus supplies which have already accumulated and depressed prices. You have a good demonstration now of the hardships which come when adjustments are delayed until after undue surpluses are accumulated...What you need on your farms and in your communities is stability and balanced prosperity. That's what the Triple-A program is for...

"The second point in a long-time policy for this area seems to me to include recognition of the opportunities for diversified production. You can with a little well-directed, purposeful effort produce those things which are needed for good living on the farm...

"These two points--recognition of the need for stabilized production of tobacco and recognition of the need for getting more of the family living from the farm--are of vital importance as you go ahead with a consistent, steady policy."

COTTON EXPORT Under the subsidized cotton export program of the
PROGRAM Department of Agriculture which began in July, 2,420,000 bales of cotton or its manufactured equivalent were exported up to October 1, the department announced yesterday. The exports included the equivalent of 99,000 bales in the form of finished products. The total does not include approximately 690,000 bales exchanged by the Commodity Credit Corporation for rubber from Great Britain. Actual exports through September 30 amounted to 761,000 bales, compared with 600,000 in the comparable period last year. (New York Times.)

FOOD STAMPS The Department of Agriculture's food stamp plan for the distribution of surplus farm products has been extended to two more areas by Secretary Wallace. Within a month the plan will be put into effect in Salt Lake County, Utah, which includes Salt Lake City, and in Allentown and Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. (Press.)

Farm-Program "No better advice could be given to the farmers of
Support Urged the United States than the appeal of Secretary of Agri-
 culture Wallace that the farmers of the United States
should proceed with their farm plans as if the outbreak of war in Europe
had not occurred," says an editorial in New England Homestead (Septem-
ber 23). "Let's not forget the disastrous over-expansion which followed
the outbreak of the last World War.....The United States is in a much
more favorable position to stand the shock of this war than they were
25 years ago. The Secretary stresses the fact that we have now abundant
food and fiber in our country and that 'by working together farmers,
business men and government can make these supplies available at prices
fair to consumers and producers alike.' If the war continues through
the fall and winter months, our various agricultural agencies will be in
the fortunate position of being able to make whatever adjustments are
necessary in the spring as we have the machinery of the Agricultural
Adjustment Act. The government has formed a National Agricultural Council
to assist in the formulation of policies to deal with the present situa-
tion and problems that are bound to arise as war continues. Let us give
the Secretary and his Council our fullest support in the trying days
ahead."

Proved After 21 years of experimental work in breeding dairy
Dairy Sires cattle, the Bureau of Dairy Industry concludes that the
 surest and quickest way to develop a herd of inherently
high-producing cows is through an unbroken succession of good proved
sires. Since the experiment was started five proved sires have been
used in the Holstein-Friesian herd at the Agricultural Research Center.
Except for the daughters of the third sire, there has been a steady in-
crease in butterfat production for each generation. Daughters of the
fifth sire are now producing more than 100 pounds butterfat a year above
the average for the daughters of the first sire. Daughters of the first
sire averaged 663 pounds of butterfat; the daughters of the second sire,
692 pounds; the third sire, 641 pounds; the fourth sire, 710 pounds; and
the fifth sire, 769 pounds. Daughters of the last four sires are still
in the herd. The herd today consists of 96 females, of which 46 are
outbred, 28 line bred, and 22 inbred. Forty-one of the 96 have completed
production records with a mature-equivalent average of 757 pounds of
butterfat. These cows are all direct descendants of the foundation cows,
whose average production was 678 pounds of butterfat. The increase of
79 pounds in the herd average can be attributed to the quality of the
proved sires used, since there has been no culling and the environment
has remained uniform since the herd was founded.

Weather
and Crops

The weekly report of the Weather Bureau says that from the Appalachian Mountains eastward rains of the week brought substantial relief from prevailing droughty conditions. The moisture was especially helpful in the middle and north Atlantic areas and the outlook is much improved. Also, in the upper Ohio Valley moderate rains have put the topsoil in mostly good condition. However, in the interior valleys, and especially the Great Plains, the drought is still largely unrelieved. Some sections, especially the upper Mississippi Valley, had sufficient rain to moisten a few inches of upper soil, temporarily beneficial, but in general, and especially in the area between the Mississippi River and Rocky Mountains, little or no permanent improvement is shown. Conditions are especially severe in the lower Plains area where more wells are failing and most stream beds are dry. There is increasing necessity for hauling stock water and pastures are gone, with further reports of stock shrinkage. In the far western portions of the country conditions are more favorable. In Arizona and New Mexico ranges are showing improvement from recent rains, while those of the current week were decidedly helpful in Utah, Nevada, much of Wyoming, most of Montana, and fairly general in Idaho, Washington, and Oregon. Unusually early frosts occurred in some north-central and northwestern areas, but only slight damage resulted as staple crops generally had matured. Farm work made mostly good progress, except the seeding of winter grains, which is being delayed in large areas because of continued dry soil.

Apples For
Relief Use

The Surplus Commodities Corporation has announced that because of a prospective large surplus it will buy apples from growers for distribution among relief families. The minimum grade to be bought is combination U.S. No. 1 and U.S. utility or an equivalent State grade. Under the program, which was recommended by grower representatives recently, producers will divert less desirable grades of their fruit into commercial byproducts. Porter R. Taylor of the Agriculture Department's division of marketing and marketing agreements said: "The apple industry is confronted with difficult marketing problems this year because of the large crop, heavy production of competing fruits and the uncertainty of the export situation. The buying of surplus apples for relief use is designed to supplement the efforts which growers themselves are willing to make in order to prevent serious losses." Commercial production of apples this year is estimated at slightly more than 103,000,000 bushels, 25 percent in excess of last year's production and 7 percent more than the average production for the last 10 years. (Associated Press.)

Farm Fire Prevention

An article on farm fires by George W. Kable, in Electricity on the Farm (October) says in part: "To prevent or fight fires, one should know where and when they are most likely to occur. In a survey by Iowa State College (Bul. 296) dwellings accounted for 50 percent of the rural fires and 45 percent of the loss; barn fires represented 15 percent of the total number and 20 percent of the loss. Stores, schools, elevators and feed mills, and churches ranked next in order with all other farm buildings losses of minor importance. The largest number of dwelling fires occurred between January and April, which corresponds with the chief losses due to defective flues and heating plants and sparks on roofs. Barn losses were at their peak from July through September with the finger of incrimination pointing toward the spontaneous combustion of hay."

Paper Products

Extensive increase in the use of paper cups, plates, spoons and napkins in United States households and restaurants is creating a rapidly growing new industry in this country, according to a report of the Forest Products Division of the Department of Commerce. In 1937, the latest year for which statistics are available, over 13,600,000 paper cups were produced. Paper dishes and spoons valued at \$3,000,000 were produced in 1937, an increase of more than 57 percent over the production in 1933. Paper napkins, production of which was valued at about \$11,000,000 in 1937, showed a 69 percent increase in production over 1933. Paper towels, valued in 1937 at \$12,000,000, showed an 84 percent increase in production over 1933. A large increase in the production of paper bags and boxes was noted in 1937 as compared with 1933. Value of bags produced in the periods compared rose from \$57,000,000 to almost \$100,000,000; while the value of paper boxes and containers increased from \$254,000,000 to \$442,000,000. (Southern Pulp & Paper Journal, September.)

Three New Forests

Three new national forests established since September 6, bring the total number in the United States to 161, it is announced by the Forest Service. Proclamations establishing the Mark Twain and Clark National Forests in the Missouri Ozarks and the Shawnee National Forest in southern Illinois have been signed by President Roosevelt and define the boundaries to include a total area of more than four million acres. Not all lands inside the boundaries will be purchased, the Forest Service explains, but purchases will continue to be made of abandoned and run-down farm land damaged by erosion and too heavy timber cutting, or other land which it is desirable to place under public ownership for production of forest products, watershed protection, fire control, and for other public benefits. (Press.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXV, No. 5

Section 1

October 6, 1939

N.E. LUMBER SALE PLAN

The Federal Northeastern Timber Salvage Administration put in effect yesterday a new policy governing the sale of more than a half a billion feet of hurricane-felled New England timber, valued at more than \$12,000,000, in an effort to remove the big supply as a threat to the market. Under this new policy, logs in water storage would be sold to existing industries, while sawed lumber would be sold in foreign markets. Observers reported that a gradual 20 percent price rise had been noted in lumber markets in recent weeks, due mainly to the European war, a rainy season in the South and what Leslie S. Bean, director of the administration, said was a smaller than usual supply on the market. (A.P.)

INFORMATION ON SCIENCE

An organization representing more than 100 Harvard and Massachusetts Institute of Technology scientists issued a statement yesterday urging research workers to adopt a "positive" policy of "active cooperation" with the newspapers for the improvement of science news and of the public's understanding of scientific methods and objectives. Asserting that general understanding of the objectives of science is a "strong defense both of the public and of the future of free scientific inquiry," the organization stressed the importance for "scientists to recognize in the press a valuable agency for liaison with the public and to attempt through active cooperation to improve its effectiveness." The organization is a committee on the public relations of science of the Cambridge branch of the American Association of Scientific Workers. (New York Times.)

EXHIBITS OF PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs in the patio of the Administration Building show the safety, health and sanitation work of the Department. This exhibit will be there for about a week. In a room off the patio is a permanent exhibit, which will demonstrate the general work of the Department, showing photographs of one bureau at a time.

INDUSTRIAL INDEX

The Federal Reserve Board's adjusted index of industrial production moved from 102 in August to 110 for September; the highest for any month since September 1937, according to the Federal Reserve Bulletin for October, made public yesterday. (Press.)

Food Price "Fever to increase food prices and all prices that
Rise Opposed sprang into being with the declaration of war in Europe
 is receding into the background and the cries of profit-
 eering are subsiding," says J. L. Miller, in the Food Field Reporter
(October 2) "although women's organizations, state and city governments
and other bodies have not ceased examining means that may be taken if
unjustified rises in prices threaten in the near or distant future.
Energetic protests that arose on all sides when foods shot upwards fol-
lowing declarations of war abroad indicate the resistance that threatens
all price rises if attempted under future conditions. Both President
Roosevelt and Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace agree that avoid-
ance of unwarranted price rises can best be attained at least for the
present by the efforts and cooperation of the various branches of the
food trade. In New York City an emergency council has been organized
by the Commissioner of Markets, William Fellowes Morgan, Jr., with the
pledged cooperation of all branches of the food distribution factors in
the metropolis. Its objective is to prevent profiteering...Other state
and city officials promised energetic action against profiteering.
Mayor Hoan of Milwaukee threatened to open up municipal markets and sell
food. Governor Herbert R. O'Connor, Maryland, was assured by his attor-
ney-general that he had full authority to control profiteering under a law
passed during the World War. Attorney General Roy McKittrick, Missouri,
warned that profiteering in food was a 'felony and any persons taking ex-
cess profits would be properly punished.'...Numerous factors in the food
trade made a non-profiteering pledge to their customers and to state and
city officials..."

Domestic "We hear much about the 'demand' for farm products
Demand and its course during recovery and recession -- whether
 it is good or bad, and how it affects farm prices and
the farmer's income," says the Agricultural Situation (September).
"Many factors are included in that expression 'Demand for farm products'--
it is complicated and hard to define for it springs from various sources
and does not affect all farm products alike. In an article, 'The Anatomy
of Domestic Demand', the first of a series by L. H. Bean, 'demand' is dis-
cussed in terms of the national income or the money income of consumers
and the underlying variations in job-creating expenditures by producers
and consumers." The concluding paragraph of the article says: "Where
available capital and labor are not being utilized as they should be, it
is clear that farmers cannot look forward to a speedy restoration of
domestic demand conditions characterized by more nearly full employment
unless some positive further stimulus is provided to bring about addi-
tional expansion in housing and investment in plant and equipment. This
would of course automatically result in increased production of indus-
trial goods for consumption by the city and farm population and therefore
in an increased national income. In line with these needs, proposals are

now being considered for ways and means of simultaneously increasing consumer purchasing and stimulating the flow of private and government capital into these job-creating activities in such ways as will not increase the Federal debt; in other words, in ways of utilizing savings and credit similar to those which this country has always used in attaining progressively higher levels of employment and living standards."

**EHFA Aids
Farmers**

"The Electric Home and Farm Authority," reports Consumers' Guide, "in five years (through May 31, 1939), helped by means of credit to place in American homes and farms more than 141,000 major electric appliances -- refrigerators, water heaters, ranges, washing machines, milking machines, feed grinders. In addition, hundreds of American families got a hand in wiring their homes for electricity. With all this to its credit, the Authority has not cost the Government a cent. In fact, it has made money. The Authority does not sell anything, and does not give anything away. What it does is enable consumers to purchase electric appliances on time payments, over longer periods of time than are usually permitted, at interest rates lower than most consumers ordinarily pay...Consumers may buy specified electric appliances (and some gas appliances) from designated dealers, on time-payment plans, at an interest cost of 5 percent per year on the original unpaid balance of the purchase price...If a consumer purchases an approved electric appliance from an approved dealer, he may make a down payment as low as 5 percent of the total cost of the appliance. Then he may have as much as 4 years to pay up the balance. The average period of contracts financed by the Electric Home and Farm Authority is about 24 months...Financing is limited to purchases where the balance due is more than \$40. At least 5 percent and sometimes 10 percent is required as a down payment on whatever is purchased. 'Only labor saving equipment and devices which contribute to a higher standard of living and which cannot be purchased for cash by the average family without undue hardship' are purchasable under the plan..."

**Poultry
Situation**

Market receipts of dressed poultry and eggs are expected to continue larger this fall and winter than last, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Storage stocks of eggs and poultry are now larger than last year, and are expected to be above 1939 levels on January 1, 1940. The effect of these larger supplies on prices during the remainder of this year will be partly offset by the effect of larger consumer incomes. By the spring of 1940 the effect of increased consumer incomes may be relatively greater and more than offset the effect of the expected larger supplies as compared with a year earlier. Usually at this season, egg prices rise faster than feed prices. However, during the past 2 months feed prices have risen faster than egg prices. For the week ending September 23, 2.5 dozen more eggs were required to buy 100

pounds of poultry ration at Chicago than in the corresponding week in 1938. Production of turkeys this year is the largest on record -- 22 percent more than in 1938, and 15 percent above the previous record high year in 1936.

Senate Received a partial report from the Tariff Com-
Oct. 4 mission concerning domestic production and importa-
tion of wood pulp or pulpwood, pursuant to S. Res.
160; to Com. on Finance.

Received a memorial from the New Jersey Legislature requesting legislation to prevent profiteering in foodstuffs and commodities; to Com. on Judiciary.

The House was not in session.

Item in Appendix: Reprint from Commerce Reports of Aug. 19, "Results Under Reciprocal Trade Agreements Program During First Half of 1939."

(Prepared by the Office of Budget and Finance.)

Tobacco Air Conditioning Air conditioning in curing and drying tobacco is discussed in Refrigerating Engineering (October) by Albert H. Cooper of Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Reporting studies carried on at the institute, he says: "It has been definitely proved that air conditioning applied to tobacco curing is extremely effective. While the initial cost of the necessary equipment for air conditioning individual barns may be rather high, it appears probable that it may be applied extensively. From a study of this process it appears that tobacco farmers might eventually cure their crop at less expense and with better results by use of air conditioning carried out in cooperatively owned and operated buildings. By sharing costs growers would be able to finance construction of curing units larger than the present tobacco barns, and cure all tobacco raised within a prescribed area. Motor transportation and good roads now available would permit growers to haul the green leaf to the central curing plant."

To Curb Price Rise Industry will do its part in cooperating with various government agencies to prevent unwarranted price increases because of the European war, members of the business advisory council assured Commerce Department officials this week. The council, composed of fifty leading industrialists, met with Department officials in their first session of this fall. The main topic of discussion was the domestic price situation, and the council is making every effort to work out a method whereby it can cooperate with the government in preventing price increases. Officials of the department pointed out that representatives of a number of the nation's largest industries had already pledged themselves to cooperate with government regulatory bodies in preventing these price boosts. They pointed out in this connection that Secretary of Agriculture Wallace's Agricultural Advisory Council had already pledged full voluntary cooperation in this respect. (Wall Street Journal, October 5.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXV, No. 6

Section 1

October 9, 1939

EMPLOYMENT, WAGE REPORTS Striking increases in the number of private job placements by public employment agencies and a sharp decrease in the total seeking work through those agencies were reported officially yesterday. At the same time there came a reminder from the Wage and Hour Division that the national minimum wage for millions under the wage-hour act increases from 25 to 30 cents an hour this month, while the maximum work week is shortened from 44 to 42 hours. The Social Security Board reported an all-time record of 254,000 job placements in private industry in August, 34 percent higher than in August 1938, with total placements, public and private, numbering "nearly a third of a million." (Press.)

STANDARD MILK MARKETING Adoption of "adequate and reasonably uniform quality and inspection standards" by nine Midwestern and Southern milk-producing states, designed to overcome restrictions to the marketing of sweet cream and condensed and evaporated milk for manufacturing purposes in other states, was urged at a regional dairy conference Saturday, says a Chicago report by the Associated Press. Standardization of the varying sanitary regulations was the primary object of the meeting, which was attended by representatives from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Tennessee and Wisconsin.

FARMERS VOTE TOBACCO QUOTA Unofficial returns from the flue-cured tobacco referendum held October 5 show that 89.8 percent of the growers voting favored marketing quotas for the 1940 flue-cured tobacco crop, the Agricultural Adjustment Administration has announced. Over 90 percent of the returns have been reported. Complete returns will not be available for several days. Out of a total of more than 300,000 farmers eligible to vote, indications are that final tabulations will total nearly 250,000 votes. This compared with 233,395 votes in the referendum on quotas for the 1939 crop. Present returns show that 206,395 farmers voted yes and 23,343 voted no, making a total of 229,738 votes reported with 89.8 percent of the voters in favor of quotas.

FOOD STAMP PROSECUTION Attorney General Frank Murphy was asked Saturday by the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation to start prosecution of the first grocer charged with violating surplus food stamp regulations. The corporation barred Nick Salzano of Birmingham, Ala., from further participation in the plan on the charge that he had accepted blue surplus stamps for commodities other than those on the surplus list. (Press.)

Adventure
of Science

Science (October 6) prints the first British and American Association lecture, "Science and Social Pioneering," by Dr. Isaiah Bowman, president of Johns Hopkins University. "Science has become one of the greatest of the adventures of our times," it says in part, "partly because it deals with the edge of the possibilities. Man was always working to push past limits, but much new knowledge, and vast organizations in our day have speeded up the process. Man has also discovered that he is changing his own possibilities as well as those of his world as he goes along. He is at the center of his own creative experiment. He has found that what science supplies is not at all an addition, positive and beneficial, until men have proved it so. The whole of that proof is in man himself and not in admiring regard for new facts and inventions. Things and forces, social and natural, good and bad, are added to himself, with the result that ever new possibilities are emerging. Land pioneering to-day illustrates two such interacting forces -- the edge of the possibilities (marginal land) and the desire for an acceptable standard of living. The limits of land cultivation are being traced farther and farther afield. But what is left of pioneer land in the twentieth century is marginal land whose conquest requires both knowledge and better material equipment. The pioneer, seeing himself as part of a wider community, asks for a share in the total benefits. If he is to be empire builder he wants his reward here and now. So, let government do it. Roads, schools, telegraph lines, favorable freight rates, market facilities, low taxes and security from undue risks to health on the frontier are demanded! The protection of children brings restrictions, limitations, conservatism. Things must get better in time or too many families will become habited to the backward look to optimal regions..."

"Facsimile"

Copies of what is believed to be the first "facsimile" of broadcasting of market reports were received recently from Station WLW of Cincinnati, Ohio, says the A. M. S. News (October 1). Although the use of facsimile of transmission of news is still in the experimental stage, authorities on this subject state that the system should prove valuable in disseminating market reports. The report was prepared by A. R. Paden, in charge of the Cincinnati office of the Livestock, Meats, and Wool Division. Facsimile is a system of communication in which images are transmitted for record reception, and in which a record is to be made. In facsimile, there is accordingly used what amounts to an electrically controlled "brush", and this is remotely operated to "paint" the stationary replica of any graphic material, whether type, script, line drawings or half-tone subjects.

BDI Cheese
Packaging

"A new cheese is beginning to appear on the market in small amounts," says Food Industries (October).

"This is packaged, sliced, unprocessed cheddar in 12-oz. and 2-lb. cans from Portland, Ore., and 8-oz. prints in 5-lb. cans from Bellingham, Wash. Also sliced Swiss cheese in 5-lb. cans from Sugar Creek, Ohio.... Though the selling prices are high, the point is that the cheese in the new form seems to be gaining public acceptance. Cheese from Bellingham, Wash., and Portland, Ore., must take an awful beating on rail freight rates for there is no refrigerated steamship service in less than car lots to the Eastern Seaboard. In spite of this handicap it is being distributed on the East Coast and the sliced Swiss cheese, packed in Ohio, is gaining in popularity in chain drug stores and sandwich shops on sheer merit. The probable trend suggested by the foregoing is that the bulk tin can will be used in cheese distribution and that unprocessed cured cheese will be sold more extensively because it will be available in package form. Retail purchasers will not see the cans at all, when the cheese is packed in small segments in 5 or 10-lb. can, except possibly at the store. When purchased in the 12-oz. or 2-lb. can, the cheese is delivered to the home in this same container. This new technic in cheese packaging and curing, developed by the Bureau of Dairy Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, is worthy of close study by those who produce or handle cheese in any form."

Forest
Conference

The Forest Industries Conference, a new departure in the relation of industry and government, has been announced. The conference met at the invitation of Secretary Wallace, in line with a plan developed by the Secretaries of Interior, Agriculture, and Commerce. "Composed of forestry and other officials of several Government agencies and representatives of industry, the Forest Industries Conference has for its basic purpose correlated assistance in the sound economic development of forest products industries through two major approaches: First, to eliminate duplication of effort on the part of Government agencies concerned with forestry and its related industries; second, to furnish the industries an opportunity to present their viewpoints, both as they involve the development of industry and its relation to forestry and as they involve the Governmental action in related fields..."

Control of
Gullies

A new Farmers' Bulletin, "Prevention and Control of Gullies", prepared by H. G. Jepson of the Soil Conservation Service, prescribes treatment for gullies based primarily on their depth and on the size of the contributing drainage areas. For small gullies -- less than three feet deep -- comparatively simple controls are recommended. The bulletin points out that large gullies and those with extensive drainage areas can generally be stabilized only by a combination of protective measures. Stressing prevention as the most economical treatment, the author also points out the necessity for control afterwards. Farmers' Bulletin 1813 may be obtained from the Department, Washington.

Farm Migrant Labor Report Advertisements holding out prospects of health and prosperity attracted migratory workers to Arizona and California, where they eke out a bare existence in poverty, according to a report by the Works Project Administration, made public recently. The report is based on a careful study of migratory workers in Arizona made by WPA during the cotton-picking season in January and February of 1938. At the peak about 30,000 workers were in the field. This was reduced to about 15,000 as the season declined. Half of all these workers averaged less than \$7.95 a week and almost one-fourth, according to the report, averaged less than \$6. Large families with four workers or more averaged \$18.38 a week for the entire family. "A majority of the cotton pickers reported that Arizona was presented to them in one way or another as being a promised land which could solve for them the problems which they could not solve at home," the report states. "The most important reason for their choice of Arizona as a destination was the advertising campaign conducted by the cotton growers." The recruiting campaign utilized not only want advertisements but also display advertising, handbills, newspaper publicity, a word-of-mouth grapevine, and occasionally radio, the study found. The advertising campaign was found to reach into several states to the east of Arizona. Sample advertisements reproduced in the text of the report showed that pickers were promised good pay, high yield per acre, good living conditions in camps and "a healthy, salubrious climate". Advertisements promised 300 to 400 pounds of cotton a day for each picker, but few achieved this. The rate of pay in 1938 was 75 cents a hundred. Most of the migrants, according to the WPA study, drift on to California, where there are already two or three times as many workers as are needed to tend and harvest special crops grown in that region. (Photostat 877-39.)

Commodity Trading Volume of trading in commodity futures in September--the period coincident with the first thirty days of the European war -- broke all recent records in expanding to a total of 292,372 contracts, compared with 217,241 contracts in August and 233,108 contracts in September of 1938. Spectacular gains were registered in virtually every commodity futures market. Cotton scored a gain of nearly 50 percent in the New York market, with total sales of 50,538 contracts, while transactions of 9,990 contracts at New Orleans were more than double the August volume. Volume last month was greater by 34 percent than total transactions in August, and showed an increase of 25 percent over total sales last September. Although the markets reverted to a more normal pace of trading later in the month, the impetus supplied in the first half was sufficient to set new records in volume on some leading exchanges. In the entire list compiled by the Journal of Commerce, there is not a single commodity which failed to show a trading gain over August, and only three--rubber, coffee and tallow--failed to surpass the volume recorded for last September. September trading in grains exceeded August volume by 14 percent and September, 1938, volume by 12 percent despite the fact wheat transactions barely edged over the total registered last September. (Photostat 876-39.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXV, No. 7

Section 1

October 10, 1939

COTTON CROP ESTIMATE

The Agriculture Department forecast this year's cotton crop yesterday as 11,928,000 bales of 500 pounds gross weight. The forecast of production, based on the condition of the crop October 1, was the third estimate of the season and compared with 12,380,000 bales forecast a month ago and 11,412,000 bales forecast two months ago. Production was 11,943,000 bales last year, and the average production for the 10 years 1928-37 was 13,800,000 bales. The condition of the crop on October 1 was 68 percent of normal compared with 70 a month ago, 66 a year ago and 61 the average condition on that date for the 10 years 1928-37. The indicated yield of lint cotton was reported as 235.7 pounds to the acre, compared with a forecast of 244.7 pounds a month ago, 223.7 two months ago, 235.8 produced last year and 190.8 the 1928-37 average yield. (A.I.)

CONSUMERS' FOOD PRICES

The National Association of Food Chains convention opened at Chicago yesterday on a keynote of cutting distribution costs to help the consumers' pocketbooks and pointed its activities toward a cementing of the alliance of chains with agriculture, along with discussions of such problems as store design, the improvement of meat marketing methods and successful sales promotion. President Roosevelt, in a message to the convention, said that "consumers of food must be protected against runaway prices caused not by increases at the farm, but by increases in margins between the farmer and the kitchen table." He said the retail grocery trade, together with representatives of processing and distributing organizations, can "be effective in seeing that consumers are protected from unreasonable margins." (New York Times.)

FOREIGN TRADE CONVENTION

Development of wartime trade with Latin America on a basis sound enough to preserve its increased volume after peace is restored in Europe ranked with pending neutrality as a dominating theme in addresses of government officials, bankers, educators and others at the opening session yesterday in New York City of the twenty-sixth annual National Foreign Trade Convention. Edward J. Noble, Under Secretary of Commerce, as a spokesman for the government, said that "our special interests in Latin America must not be forgotten," and Father Edmund A. Walsh, regent of the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, said that trade with Latin America had never been fully developed and the region remained the most promising recompense for trade losses in other quarters. (New York Times.)

Accidents
on Farms

In "The Hazards of Farming," in the Journal of the American Medical Association (October 7) John H. Powers, M.D., reports a study of 310 farm accidents incurred in a rural section of New York State and treated at a hospital in Coopers-town during 1929-38. Summarizing the accidents, which were sufficiently severe to necessitate admission to a hospital or major surgical treatment, he says: "Agricultural accidents were responsible for nearly one fourth of all the serious injuries treated at a medium sized rural hospital in the central part of New York State during the years 1929-1938 inclusive. Such accidents showed a definite seasonal variation with a peak during July and August, for which haying, the playing of children and other unclassified activities were largely responsible. Fifty per-cent of all farm accidents occurred either in the barn or in the barn-yard. Routine chores were the most dangerous single motivating activity, with logging and haying next in order of frequency. Farm tools and implements, animals, machinery and vehicles all contributed their share of injuries in about equal proportions. Falls were numerous. Males were involved with ten times the frequency of females. Nearly 50 per-cent of the patients reached the hospital within two hours. Fractures comprised one third of all injuries; division of nerves and tendons and partial or complete amputations of fingers and hands were common. The shoulder and upper extremity were injured more frequently than the hip and lower extremity. The average period of hospitalization was 18.3 days and the average number of outpatient visits was 5.7. The monetary loss incidental to a serious injury was for most farmers a major financial catastrophe. Twenty percent were unable to pay anything for their hospitalization and professional care. The mortality was 5.1 per-cent."

National
Wealth

The estimated value of the national wealth of the United States, after a precipitous decline from 1930 to 1934, has been recovering steadily, the National Industrial Conference Board reports in a study, "New Estimates of the National Wealth and of Its State Distribution, 1922-1937." After dropping to pre-war levels by 1934, values recovered to about the 1927 level by 1937, the last year for which data are available, according to the study. From a peak of nearly \$353,000,000,000 in 1929, the national wealth of the United States fell to \$287,000,000,000 in 1934, and rose again to \$308,000,000,000, the conference board estimates. Preliminary figures for 1937 are \$322,000,000,000. The recovery has been largely in the value of stocks of goods, and partly in the value of real estate and public utility assets, and only slightly in the value of other productive assets, according to the figures. Per capita wealth, which has been recovering slowly since 1934, is estimated at \$2,490 for 1937, compared with \$2,792 in 1922 and with the peak of \$2,910 that was reached in 1929, the conference board said, pointing out that the decrease in per capita wealth is the result of the growth of population during the period of rapidly declining and then slowly recovering values. (Press.)

Trade Barrier Conference A recent conference of ten western states (Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico, Utah, Nevada, Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas, and North and South Dakota) to discuss interstate trade barriers "made definite progress in defining the job that lies ahead," according to Business Week (October 7). "It was decided, for example, that a law which might work hardship on out-of-state business could not be considered a trade barrier unless it was designed to deliberately discriminate against other states. It was also tentatively decided by the taxation committee that chain store taxes were not properly considered trade barriers and hence outside the committee's purview. The conference definitely recommended that each state enforcing a use tax should provide an offset favoring those goods on which a sales tax was paid in the state of origin. Copies of recommendations for uniform state laws, when finally compiled, will be sent to the governors of all 48 states for presentation to the various state legislatures..."

Chemists in Government In The Chemist (September) Louis Marshall, in the sixth of a series of articles on chemists in government service, writes on the history of this subject. "With the birth of the Department of Agriculture," he says in part, "a great impetus was given to chemical activities on the part of the Government, and from the latter part of the nineteenth century onward, many chemists have, by their researches, not only advanced the progress of their science, but have contributed immeasurably to the security and well-being of our nation. Among the distinguished men who have served their Government as chemists, one may point to the names of William Francis Hillebrand for his work in inorganic chemistry; to Frank Wigglesworth Clarke whose work in geochemistry made him internationally known; to Harvey Washington Wiley whose illustrious struggle against adulterated and deleterious foodstuffs reached its successful culmination in the passage of the Food and Drugs Act of 1906; to the great chemist Frank Austin Gooch of Yale University who worked for a time with the Geological Survey; and to many others. Going right up to the present, one may refer to such scientists as Henry G. Knight, F.A.I.C., for his work in agricultural chemistry; to Claude S. Hudson whose researches in the field of carbohydrates have been signally honored; to Gustave E. F. Lundell for his work in inorganic analytical chemistry; to F. R. Bichowsky for his investigations in physical chemistry; and to C. A. Browne for his researches in sugars; to mention only a few. The growth of Governmental activities along chemical lines has continued through the years, until today seven of the ten major Executive Department of the Government, those of Agriculture, Commerce, Interior, Justice, Navy, Treasury, and War, find it necessary to utilize the services of chemists. Chemists are likewise to be found in some of the independent establishments of the Government, as for example, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Government Printing Office, the Civil Service Commission, and the Federal Security Agency which has taken over the Public Health Service..."

Inspection
of Meat

Benjamin Schwartz, chief of the zoological division, Bureau of Animal Industry, writes in the American Journal of Public Health (October) on meat inspection and public health. The summary says: "An effective system of meat inspection promotes public health (1) through the condemnation of parts of or entire carcasses of food animals containing parasites that are transmissible to man directly and indirectly; (2) through special processing for the destruction of trichinae, and of cysticerci not discoverable by macroscopic examination; and (3) through the condemnation of parts of carcasses or of entire carcasses in which parasitic infestations not transmissible to man, but objectionable from esthetic and other standpoints, are so generalized that the parasites and lesions cannot be removed by trimming. Meat inspection is also an effective control measure for certain parasites, notably tapeworms, that occur as immature forms in edible portions of carcasses; through the condemnation of parts of carcasses so affected, the vicious cycle of these parasites is interrupted. Meat inspection must be regarded, therefore, as one of the important prophylactic measures for the control of parasites affecting livestock as well as human beings. Certain parasitic infestations transmissible from food animals to human beings cannot be controlled by meat inspection alone; however, a sound inspection system can and does contribute materially to control of certain parasitic infestations of man; in the absence of inspection these parasites would probably constitute a serious human health problem."

War-Time
Farm Plans

"American farmers would do well for themselves and likewise for their country if they consider carefully the sound advice of Secretary of Agriculture Wallace to 'proceed with their production plans as if the outbreak in Europe had not occurred,'" says an editorial in the Iowa Davenport Democrat. "Today the Nation has something it did not have during the last World War. That is the Agricultural Adjustment Administration farm program which gives the farmers the power to adjust their production up or down according to needs; to maintain abundant supplies thru the ever-normal granary and, above all, to continue the soil conservation measures during the emergency. The Triple-A protects the farmers' interest at the same time that it gives the Nation added security. A better war-time measure for a neutral Nation never existed. Farmers are better prepared than ever before to meet changes in demand both at home and abroad and at the same time conserve their soil. For unwarranted farm expansion in the hope of speculative gain would mean soil exploitation and farmers can remember that during the last World War many millions of dollars' worth of precious soil was dissipated...It is apparent that farmers in the United States are in prime position to meet and profit by any extraordinary demands that may be made by reason of the European war and thus protect themselves from such a disastrous aftermath as followed the last great war. The Secretary's warning is timely and sound."

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXV, No. 8

Section 1

October 11, 1939

CORN, WHEAT FORECASTS

The Department of Agriculture in its October crop report yesterday placed production of corn this year at 2,532,417,000 bushels and the total wheat crop (winter and spring wheat combined) at 739,445,000 bushels. Corn production was forecast a month ago at 2,523,092,000 bushels, last year's crop amounted to 2,542,238,000 and the average production for the 10 years 1928-37 was 2,309,674,000. The combined wheat crop was forecast a month ago at 736,115,000 bushels, production was 930,801,000 last year and the 10-year average was 752,952,000. (A.I.)

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

The number of cities in which the Department of Agriculture food stamp plan for distribution of farm surpluses is in operation will be increased from the present 5 to 25 by Christmas and to 100 by next June, Milo Ferkins, president of the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation, told the National Association of Food Chains at its annual convention yesterday, according to a Chicago report to the New York Times. Mr. Ferkins said: "It appears that about one-quarter of the blue stamps are being used for butter and another one-quarter for eggs. About 10 percent of the added purchasing power is being used for wheat products. Approximately 31 percent is being divided among fresh fruits and vegetables." Mr. Ferkins expressed the hope that with the steady improvement in business conditions, the number of food stamp beneficiaries would decrease, and added that certain commodities, "such as citrus fruits and possibly pork products," may be added to the list.

TOBACCO AUCTION

Flue-cured tobacco markets were reopened yesterday throughout North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia with prices approximately the same as they were before a 4-week selling holiday and with the largest amount of tobacco ever offered in one day, says a Raleigh report in the New York Times. The markets were closed in the face of a threatened collapse in price following the withdrawal of the Imperial Tobacco Company, largest single purchaser of flue-cured tobacco, and other British companies, due to war conditions. Imperial Tobacco was back in the markets yesterday as purchasing agent for the Commodity Credit Corporation, which has given to the Imperial and other companies with which it has made similar arrangements, an option until July 1, 1941, on all tobacco purchased for the government agency.

Trenches as H. G. Meginnis, of the Southern Forest Experiment
Gully Checks Station, writes in the Journal of Forestry (October)
 on soil-collecting trenches as substitutes for check
dams in reforesting gullies. "During 1938," he reports, "a number of
soil-collecting trenches of differing design were excavated in
several types of gullies to obtain further information on the feasi-
bility and potential uses of these structures. Although additional
trials are needed, preliminary observations indicate that, in north-
ern Mississippi and comparable localities, trenches may be employed
effectively as site-improvement measures in the types of gullies
. in which it is difficult to build temporary check
dams. Furthermore, it appears that trenches can be substituted suc-
cessfully for dams in those locations where the gully has developed
in consolidated subsoils but where the lack of brush or other raw
materials makes it difficult or uneconomical to construct check dams.
Trenches, unlike dams, require no materials, and can be constructed
by unskilled labor with little supervision. This and the fact that
the soil excavated from the trenches provides suitable fill material,
whereas extra labor is required to reduce gully banks in order to
furnish a quick catch of soil for dams, are factors which may recom-
mend the trenching method for use on certain projects. Often trenches
cannot be dug in the more refractory subsoils during the normally dry
months of summer and early fall, owing to the fact that these soils
become rocklike when thoroughly desiccated; when moist, however, they
can be dug with little difficulty. Although mechanical equipment has
not been used to excavate the trenches, it may prove more feasible
and economical to use horse-drawn plows and drag scrapers or even
small power graders in many of the broader washes..."

Artificial Within the last five years Department scientists
Breeding have turned their attention to artificial insemination
 as a method of extending the influence of good sires
from 10 to 20 times beyond that possible by natural mating. Depart-
ment scientists have developed artificial breeding techniques and in
experimental work have obtained a higher percentage of offspring
than by natural breeding. For practical application of the new
method the Department recommends that it be tried only in areas that
have a dense livestock population. Experience indicates that it is
practical for livestock breeders within a radius of 10 to 15 miles
to form a cooperative breeding association. Farm Security Admini-
stration officials are encouraging artificial breeding in a number
of associations organized for FSA borrowers. Only about 15 groups
are now using artificial insemination, but as choice sires are ob-
tained and other obstacles are erased more associations are expected
to adopt the practice. Experience of the few breeding associations
using artificial insemination indicate many desirable features, says

J. R. Allgyer, in charge of the community and cooperative section of the Farm Security Administration. FSA borrowers, generally small herd owners, get the benefit of a superior sire at a price they can afford to pay. In addition, Mr. Allgyer points out, such a system of breeding lessens the danger of spreading diseases associated with breeding. Too, since the insemination is usually done by a licensed veterinarian, regular visits are made to the farm where he is able to make suggestions for maintaining the health of breeding stock. The Department experiments have shown also that where valuable sires had become incapacitated for natural service, their good qualities can still be passed on by artificial insemination. To help farmers who desire to form artificial breeding associations, a model constitution and set of by-laws with suggestions and cautions have been drawn up by the Farm Security Administration, the Bureaus of Animal Industry and Dairy Industry, and the Extension Service. It is not necessary that farmers be borrowers of the FSA to get this service, Mr. Allgyer declares. Some of the associations plan in the near future to extend the artificial breeding program by establishing community livestock breeding centers with all sires -- jacks, stallions, bulls for dairy and beef breeds, boars and rams -- under the direction of a qualified herdsman and veterinarian. A nominal breeding fee -- \$3 to \$5 for cattle, \$8 to \$10 for jacks and stallions, \$1.50 to \$3 for boars and rams -- will cost the average farmer less than keeping sires of equal value on the farm. Experience has proved that unless exceptional sires are obtained, artificial breeding is useless. Furthermore, the work must be done by a veterinarian or qualified technician.

Farm Forestry The Tioga Woodland Owners' Cooperative, Inc., according to a note by Roy L. Donahue, of Cornell University, in the October Journal of Forestry, is "the first private, nonsubsidized cooperative in the United States prepared to market exclusively farm forestry products...A tract of approximately 100,000 acres was selected in the southwestern part of Tioga County, N.Y... The Soil Conservation Service furnished one forester, 25 C.C.C. enrollees, and necessary transportation. Tree growth studies were completed under the supervision of the staff of the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station. Region 7 of the U. S. Forest Service, Division of State and Private Forestry, supplied C. R. Farrington to act as Project Chief. Finally, the New York State College of Forestry cooperated by assigning James E. Phillips to the job of investigating the silvicultural considerations involved in managing the farm woodlands...Membership in this nonstock cooperative association is open to any woodland owner or tenant who makes application, agrees to abide by the by-laws, signs the marketing agreement, and pays a fee of one dollar...The woodland owner agrees: (1) To have his trees marked before cutting and his logs scaled by a competent man chosen by the association; (2) To market his woodland products through the association (trees cut for home use are exempt from this agreement); (3) To pay the necessary costs involved in marking,

scaling, and bookkeeping. In return, the association agrees in part: (1) To train and make available for the members a qualified timber marker and scaler; (2) To act as lawful agent in securing the best possible price for the products sold; (3) To mingle forest products from different members if it is in the best interest of the association as a matter of economy or expediency....Thus, we have an agreement between producer and buyer, that is capable of accomplishing the dual purpose of a greater woodland income as well as establishing a conservative cutting policy with the aim of a perpetual tree crop."

Self-Help Rural America (September) says editorially that Cooperatives there are indications of the revival of self-help cooperatives. "In rural communities," it says, "there is some opinion that self-help and mutual aid on a community basis must be tried more intensively." An illustration of this development, it continues, "is that being carried out in connection with the Merom Institute of Merom, Indiana, under the auspices of several agencies of churches. The term used is 'Merom Reciprocal Economy.' This economic organization operates differently from the methods of producers' or consumers' cooperatives. It proceeds with a minimum of capital and ordinarily does not operate in competition with other branches of business. It provides the means whereby idle men and unused resources can be joined in order to raise the standards of living of individuals and families and communities. Men exchange services and goods. The movement is primarily for those who have been displaced from employment for wages and applies particularly to villagers. Farmers, however, have been able to cooperate by exchanging goods for the labor of the men in the self-help cooperative. Among the activities of the Merom group are the cutting of wood, manufacturing of maple syrup, repairing of furniture, gardening, canning, weaving, salvaging of junk. An important feature of the Merom Reciprocal Economy is that cooperative action and adult education are systematically integrated."

Forest Fires Forest fires in 1938 burned over 33,815,100 acres, an area as large as Arkansas, the Forest Service has reported. The fires occurred at an average rate of one every two and a half minutes. Based on returns from State Forestry Departments, national forest supervisors and other Federal agencies, the summary gives the number of fires for the calendar year 1938 as 232,229, or 47,020 above 1937 and 41,287 above the average for 1934-38. The summary showed, on the other hand, that the acreage burned over last year was 624,293 acres below the five-year average, and that the estimated damage was \$1,551,400 below the average for the same period. Prolonged spring and summer dry spells, which increased abnormally the hazard of fire from all causes, with severe and frequent lightning storms in the western mountain country, were cited by the Forest Service as the principal reasons for the increase in number of fires. It was pointed out, however, that improved methods and facilities for detecting and reporting fires also made for a larger recorded number for the year as compared with previous years. (Press.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXV, No. 9

Section 1

October 12, 1939

FOOD CHAINS The National Association of Food Chains at its final
BACK STAMP session yesterday approved unanimously the federal food
PLAN, COUNCIL stamp plan and the Agricultural Advisory Council. The report of the trade relations committee termed the stamp plan "sound and practical" and "worthy of cooperation and support of every food chain operator." The committee also approved the proposal of the Agricultural Advisory Council and "the endorsement of the President, placing responsibility for dealing with problems of food production in the council through the medium of the Department of Agriculture in the event that such emergency action is required." (New York Times.)

COMPTON ON Dr. Karl T. Compton, president of Massachusetts
SCIENCE IDEALS Institute of Technology, in his report last night to the Institute's corporation, declared that educators and scientists "are practically unanimous in condemning Germany's recent indiscriminate persecution of minorities without regard to personal merit." "Authoritarian control is inherently contradictory to the spirit of science and the pursuit of knowledge," Dr. Compton declared. "In the world of scholarship there is no authority except the truth, as it can be demonstrated by observation, experiment and in the world of engineering, physical laws and economic analysis are the authority for all decisions. Every injection of authority based on the prejudices or ambitions or objectives of people is a blow to scientific progress." (New York Times.)

SHIPPING BAN Foreign traders, by adopting a resolution at the closing
CLOSED session of the annual convention of the National Foreign Trade Council yesterday, aligned themselves with opponents of any neutrality legislation that would put drastic restrictions on this country's trade and shipping. The resolution was adopted without a dissenting vote and sent to President Roosevelt. The declaration on foreign trade problems was drawn up by a special committee. Included among the other questions were inter-American relations, the Export-Import Bank, reciprocal trade agreements, stabilization of world currencies and Cuban trade relations. (New York Times.)

WOOD-RUBBER The British Government yesterday reached an agree-
EXCHANGE ment for the exchange of Russian timber for British rubber, says a New York Herald-Tribune report from London. No details of the agreement were disclosed.

Weather and Crops Widespread moderate to substantial rains during the past week relived extremely droughty conditions to a considerable extent over much of the persistently dry midwestern area, says the Weather Bureau. The rains were especially beneficial in central-northern districts, the central and upper Mississippi Valley, and over most of the Great Plains. However, very little rain occurred in some sections of the Plains area, especially western Kansas, eastern Colorado, western North Dakota, and Montana. Rains were helpful in much of the more western part of the country, including the northern Rocky Mountain districts, the Great Basin, and the North Pacific States.

In the central and eastern portions of the Ohio Valley rainfall was very light and abnormally high temperatures, in some places record breaking for the season, depleted soil moisture rapidly, thus nullifying, to a considerable extent, the potential effect of the moderate precipitation received some 10 days ago. Also, fair, warm weather in the Southeast has resulted in moderately droughty conditions in that area with more moisture needed for fall crops and seed-ing.

In the Middle Atlantic and North Atlantic States, while rainfall was mostly light, there is sufficient soil moisture for current needs and high temperatures promoted growth of fall vegetation. Texas, most of Oklahoma, eastern Kansas, most of Missouri, and the upper Mississippi Valley were especially favored. However, because of the previous extreme dryness of the soil, much more rain is needed throughout the entire drought area to replenish the depleted subsoil moisture. Farm work made good advance generally and pastures should revive materially in central and southern sections where the recent rains occurred.

Citrus Rate Reduction New rates on shipment of citrus fruits which have the effect of placing the railroads on an equality with trucks in the matter of competition have been issued by the Interstate Commerce Commission, says a Brownsville (Texas) report in the Wall Street Journal (October 10). The railroads applied for these reductions, which in some instances are as much as 33 percent. Truckers have been cutting into the citrus haul. Until last season more than 65 percent of the Rio Grande Valley orange crop moved by truck and more than 33 percent of its grapefruit was shipped in this manner. The new rates slice the charge on citrus fruit from the lower Valley points to Natchez, Mississippi, to 62 cents per 100 pounds, as against the old rate of 99 cents. From the Valley to Kansas City the charge is cut from 95 to 81 cents and to Omaha the new rate is 80 cents as against \$1. To Denver, the new rate is 94 cents against \$1.21. Reductions to Texas points range from 20 to 30 percent.

Continued
Education

M. L. Wilson, Under Secretary of Agriculture, writes on "What Are the Objectives of Continuing Education?" in Rural America (September). "Much of our emphasis on science today," he says in part, "is upon its technology and its economic value. Unfortunately we don't have much science taught in the schools and colleges from the standpoint of the cultural satisfactions which grow out of being close to nature and understanding it. The people today, nevertheless, possess a high degree of latent amateur interest in science. Science news releases are read eagerly. Continuing avocational education should capitalize upon this fine opportunity. For instance, there is great opportunity for placing dignified science exhibits, which might properly be called science observation stations, along the roads and highways of the nation wherever there are interesting or inspiring objects to be seen. If we plan for it we could open up the book of nature with a kind of language that everyone can understand so that all people who travel in automobiles could read nature wherever they go; and we could become a nation of naturalists who derive great inner satisfactions from seeing and knowing about the forces which have made the surface of the earth and evolved the life that inhabits it. There are already the beginnings of a movement to humanize science and develop its cultural aspects."

Acid Heals

Plant Wounds Wounds in plants are caused to heal by an acid which has been isolated in crystalline form by Drs. James English, Jr., James Bonner and A. J. Haagen-Smit of the California Institute of Technology, and for which they propose the name "traumatic acid," says a Science Service report. The substance has the chemical formula $C_{12}H_{22}O_4$, and is identical with the organic acid, 1-decene-1,10-dicarboxylic acid. The three experimenters, using a solution of this acid synthetically prepared, induced rapid formation of healing tissue on the cut surfaces of potato tubers. The discovery of the chemical nature of the wound hormone is announced briefly in the current number of Science, with the statement that a more detailed report will be published later.

Loans for
Peanuts

The Commodity Credit Corporation has been authorized to loan up to \$9,000,000 to cooperative peanut-grower associations in the 1939 peanut diversion program, administered by the Division of Marketing and Marketing Agreements. The CCC loans will enable four cooperative associations to finance purchases under the program, and to pay immediately for peanuts they buy from growers. The loans are to be repaid by the associations, from funds received through resale of peanuts and through Federal payments. Similar loans made in past years have been repaid in full with interest. The Federal payments, representing the difference between the price paid by the associations and the resale price, plus handling costs, are made for the diversion of farmers' peanuts into oil and byproducts.

Foreign Trade Financing A proposal for the development of new machinery for financing foreign trade, under private auspices but with assurances of federal assistance when necessary, was laid before the National Foreign Trade Council this week by Federal Loan Administrator Jesse H. Jones. In a letter to James A. Farrell, chairman of the council, Mr. Jones suggested that the council "could be helpful in providing facilities for financing exports and imports by the organization of export and import companies to which private lenders, as well as the Reconstruction Finance Corp. and the Export-Import Bank, could lend when necessary." Considerable significance was attached to the equal emphasis given by Mr. Jones to the RFC as well as to the Export-Import Bank as a source of funds for financing foreign trade. Heretofore, the Export-Import Bank has been the principal financing medium in the Administration's efforts to increase exports, particularly to Latin-America. The RFC, however, has a large balance of unused lending authority, estimated at around \$1,200,000,000 at present for all fields of the corporation's lending activities, whereas the Export-Import Bank has exhausted almost all of its existing lending power of \$100,000,000, either through actual loans or commitments. (Wall Street Journal, October 11.)

Food Stamp Program "From the commercial standpoint, the stamp plan is a real hit," says an editorial in National Grocers Bulletin (October). "A complete report will require much more research to accomplish, but so far food sales in Rochester, the first test city, have increased beyond the amount represented by blue stamp purchases...Stores in low-income neighborhoods report that weekly food sales were 12 percent higher in the first nine weeks of the stamp plan's operation than in four weeks prior to the program. After excluding the sales of surplus foods, purchased with blue stamps, average weekly sales during the nine-week period were 6 percent above the former weekly average. Among stores in middle income areas, weekly sales were up 8 percent in total -- 5 percent if blue-stamp sales are deducted. While these sales increases may not be wholly due to the stamp plan, it seems the only logical conclusion when upper-income stores, which have practically no stamp business, show now appreciable change in sales totals. From the standpoint of the relief client, the plan is a real hit, because it gives the individual the freedom of choice in selecting foods they want from the surplus list... From the standpoint of retail store operation, it appears that price reductions in all commodities have been slight -- that the surplus commodities are being used as leaders, but not as loss leaders -- and that the increased volume has produced a greater over-all return..."

DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

October 13, 1939

FOOD PRICES DECLINE

The American housewife saved three-quarters of one percent on her grocery budget last week as food prices continued to react from the sudden rise at the start of the war. Secretary Perkins reported the average retail decline yesterday as shown by the Bureau of Labor Statistics survey for the week ending October 10. "Prices of most of the 15 staple foods were either unchanged or lower," she said. "Some decreased by as much as 11 percent." Lard prices declined sharply, Miss Perkins said, averaging 4 or 5 percent less than the previous week, but they were still between 15 and 30 percent above August figures in most cities. Prices of pork chops, bacon, navy beans and sugar moved downward fairly consistently, decreasing generally by from 2 to 5 percent. Navy beans, however, were still 15 to 40 percent above the August 15 prices. Pork chops were at or below the August level in 9 of 12 principal cities. (A.I.).

OCEAN TRADE PLAN URGED

Chairman Josiah W. Bailey of North Carolina, of the Senate Commerce Committee, yesterday submitted a brief urging liberalization of the neutrality act so that the present rigid ban on foreign trade may be partially lifted. Adoption of the Bailey plan, which has the backing of the Maritime Commission, would keep in service about 130 American dry cargo vessels of some 860,000 gross tons engaged in high seas commerce and 16 ships of 80,000 gross tons in the coastwise trade. (Washington Times Herald.)

CATTLE FEEDING

The number of cattle to be fed for market during the winter and spring of 1939-40 is expected to be somewhat larger than the number fed a year earlier, the Agricultural Marketing Service reported yesterday. The increase over last year will be in feeding in the Corn Belt States since the number fed in other areas will be smaller. Shipments of stocker and feeder cattle into the Corn Belt States, inspected at stockyards during the 3 months July through September were 12 percent larger this year than last and were the largest for the period in 12 years. It is probable, however, that the rate of increase in feeder shipments will not be maintained through the last 3 months of the year. Shipments of feeder cattle into the Corn Belt during the last 3 months of the year may be little larger than last year.

Forest Tax
Delinquency

In "The Forest Tax Delinquency Problem in the South" in the Southern Economic Journal (October) Ronald B. Craig, of the Southern Forest Experiment Station, says in part: "Too much effort has been spent in the past in evolving methods of handling and using lands which have already reverted to public ownership in comparison with the effort made to prevent, or decrease the volume of, future delinquency and reversion. It will serve public and private interests little to evolve complicated machinery for determining the best use, ownership, and administration of reverted lands when the volume of the annual flow of private property into public title under existing conditions exceeds by far the area which the public can afford to handle and use. Nevertheless, much of the literature on this problem is concerned more with what to do about it after it has arisen than with means of alleviating its causes. Since the chief causes of both short term and long term delinquency lie in the field of governmental organization and administration, it is obvious that the first attack on the problem, whether relating to crop land or forest land, must be on that front. The causes of delinquency be summarized as follows: (1) improvement in the whole assessment system and practice to relate benefits received by, and tax-paying ability of, property to its assessment; (2) improvement in supervising by the state of local finances, and in relating the extent of local governmental services to the local tax base, present and potential; (3) prompt, impartial, and equitable enforcement of properly drawn and reasonable tax laws; and (4) such changes in the organization of political units and in the distribution of functions as are calculated to insure the greatest efficiency. When these steps have been taken, much of the problem of delinquency will have been solved."

Freight
Transfer

Ice and Refrigeration (October) describes the new freight system designed to coordinate mechanically long-haul railway service with short-haul truck movement, demonstrated at the New York World's Fair. "Simple devices make possible the surface transfer of either 20-foot truck bodies or 4,000-gallon tanks of 25 tons gross weight between rail cars and highway vehicles through push-button control by a single operator," it says. "The equipment lends itself ideally to bulk transportation between industries located remote from, as well as on, rail sidings; for example, commodities classified as dairy products, chemicals, petroleum products, coal tar products, paints and solvents, alcohol, beverages, liquid sugar, glucose, molasses, general merchandise and refrigerated products...Each car can rail-haul two tanks or truck bodies designed in detail to conform with the requirements of different products. A 100-car train can inter-city haul 200 truck-body loads, whereas moving via highway this number would require 200 individual trucks. Railroads, thus can inter-city haul a plurality of loads more economically, more expeditiously and with greater safety than if moved individually over the highways..."

**Food Stamp
Program**

The Survey (October) contains "Stamps to Move the Surplus" by Joanna C. Colcord of the charity organization department, Russell Sage Foundation. "It seems fairly evident that marked changes may be effected within a few months," the author says in the concluding paragraphs. "As the list of surplus items dwindles, some dissatisfaction may be expected to develop among relief recipients. One third in monetary value of the foods consumed by each relief family must be chosen from commodities currently listed as 'surplus'. As this one third comes to consist of fewer and fewer items, two devices which have been incorporated in the plan are relied upon to keep the surpluses moving. One is the insistence on regular purchase of stamps at each monthly or semi-monthly period, on penalty of possibly being declared ineligible to participate in the stamp plan in the future; the other is the demand that empty stamp books be returned before new books can be purchased. The potentially coercive use of these devices is, of course, not apparent when a diverse, cheap and palatable list of commodities is available as has been the case thus far. The stamp plan is a most ingenious device for serving divers economic aims of the administration. It is an enormous improvement on any method of food distribution yet developed. It has succeeded in pleasing both big and little business, as well as farmers, labor, and the unemployed. If there is a 'catch', it lies far back in the area of price maintenance through government expenditures, and not in the local application of the plan. If the stamp plan were to sweep the country, be extended to low income groups as well as to relief recipients, and include other consumption goods than food as has been contemplated, then far-reaching changes might come about in our monetary system and in our entire national economy. But this scarcely seems likely to happen with world conditions as they are. In any case, the stamp plan furnishes a colorful chapter in the history of public assistance; and must be placed to the credit of American good will, imagination, and practical organizing ability."

**Export
Trade Up**

Increased purchases by England and France were largely responsible for the expansion in American exports in August to \$250,839,000, compared with \$230,790,000 correspondingly last year, the Department of Commerce announces. An increase over July's figures also was noted. Imports for the month gained \$10,000,000 to a total of \$175,756,000. Exports in the first eight months this year were valued at \$1,896,322,000 against \$2,049,112,000 to August 31, 1938. Recessions occurred in all trade areas in spite of increases to a few countries, notably a gain of 26 percent in exports to France and of 29 percent to Sweden. (Press.)

**Individual
Cold Locker**

Ice and Refrigeration (October) reports a new individual refrigerated locker for low temperature and freezing of foods, designed to augment the services of cold storage locker plants. These new lockers can be operated by any standard make of refrigerating machine. Five 10 by 10 by 2 inch wire baskets each hold from 5 to 10 pounds of packaged foods. They are equipped with an adjustable temperature range permitting temperatures down to minus 15 degrees F.

Rural School Catherine Leamy, of the Maryland State Department
Hot Lunches of Health, describes a successful plan of serving hot
 lunches to rural school children in Massey, Maryland,
in Practical Home Economics (October). "During the summer canning
season," she reports, "the parents, teachers, and older pupils meet
at the school house under the leadership of the home demonstration
agent and can mixed vegetables which are donated by various members of
the community. As soon as school opens farmers are solicited for the
school's winter supply of potatoes. After the menus are made out each
child is asked to bring one kind of food once a week. In no instance
is the value to exceed ten cents. On arriving in the morning, the
children peel potatoes, wash beans, or are assigned some activity in
the preparation of the day's menu. The teachers supervise the actual
cooking. Some of the dishes served as a supplement to the lunch brought
from home are vegetable soup, creamed potatoes, cocoa, and beef stew..."

Economic President Roosevelt, in a message sent this week to
Nationalism the National Foreign Trade convention, said that all
 thoughtful persons must realize that economic nationalism
is the most prolific breeder of wars. His letter said in part: "I am
confident that our business men throughout the country, despite their
preoccupation with the day-to-day problems they must face, are turning
their minds in this hour to the problem of how war may be averted in the
future. They realize, as all thoughtful persons must realize, that
economic nationalism is the most prolific breeder of wars. They recall
the economic maladjustments arising out of the last war and the ill-
fated peace settlement which followed it. It is obvious that the
economic well-being of the individual business man is inextricably
mingled with the economic well-being of the nation and of the world. It
is a matter of direct concern to him, therefore, that every effort be
made at this time to maintain those liberal principles and practices upon
which our commercial policy is based. For, although these principles and
practices cannot by themselves prevent the outbreak of war or restore
peace, they will be essential to a truly just and enduring peace settle-
ment when the present conflict shall have ended." (New York Times.)

To Buy Corn The Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation has been
Meal, Grits authorized to buy corn meal and grits from processors who
 agree to buy an equivalent quantity of loan corn from the
Commodity Credit Corporation. This is 1937 corn delivered to the CCC
last winter by producers in liquidation of their corn loans. The corn
meal and grits will be donated to State welfare agencies for families on
relief and for school lunches. Purchases under this announcement are not
expected to exceed 360,000 barrels of corn meal and 90,000 barrels of
corn grits. Purchases of corn meal during 1938-39 totaled 859,000
barrels, approximately the equivalent of 3,900,000 bushels of corn.

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Section 1

October 16, 1939

WALLACE With Secretary of Agriculture Wallace heading a list
OPPOSES of prominent speakers; all of the opinion that there is
"RACISM" no scientific justification for racial hatred, the American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom conducted a special discussion at the World's Fair yesterday on "What the Scientist Can Do to Combat Racism."

Declaring that the "idea of a racially pure stock" has great emotional appeal and is also used for political and economic purposes "to fool many people," Mr. Wallace said that scientists should be the last to be deceived by false racial theories based on emotional appeal and fostered for political purposes. "There is really no such thing as a pure race, in the sense in which the term is commonly used by fanatics," he added.

The scientist, Secretary Wallace, said, has both a "special motive and a special responsibility; his motive comes from the fact that when personal liberty disappears, scientific liberty also disappears, his responsibility comes from the fact that only he can give the people the truth." "He should throw his weight definitely on the side of making our democracy a true democracy, so that every child and every adult may have an equal opportunity to earn and enjoy the good things of life," he added. "In doing this he will truly serve science and he will truly serve humanity. In this hour of world-wide crisis it is time for the men of science to act. It is time for them to band together to spread far and wide the truth about the genetic basis of democracy and to work together for a better environment, so that our political democracy and scientific freedom may survive." (New York Times.)

RETIREMENT The Civil Service Commission has been asked by Chair-
FUND STUDY man Bulow of the Senate Civil Service Committee to study the feasibility of fixing the contributions of government employees to the retirement fund on a sliding scale, based on salary levels, as a possible means of obtaining more liberal age limits for optional retirement. In a letter to Harry B. Mitchell, president of the commission, Senator Bulow expressed confidence Congress is willing to lower the optional age limits if it can be done "without materially increasing the cost to the government or the employees." Senator Bulow's letter to the commission is the first step looking toward further consideration of the subject of more liberal optional features at the regular session in January. (Washington Star.)

Facsimile Broadcast October 4-H Horizons says that this year, for the first time, the National 4-H Club Camp pictures were sent by facsimile broadcast. "Early this year," it says, "the New Jersey Extension Service made its first experiments with facsimile broadcasting in co-operation with Station WOR. The first broadcast presented a soilless window box invented by a staff member of the New Jersey College of Agriculture. This subject, presented by means of the RCA system of transmission, showed three photographs of the box and its inventor together with appropriate captions. A pen and ink sketch of the device was also facsimiled. Following the initial broadcast, the New Jersey Extension Service has presented a wide range of subjects through the facsimile facilities, and the broadcast of the pictures of the National 4-H Club Camp was one of these."

Civil Service Examination The United States Civil Service Commission announces the following examination: No. 108, assembled, Junior Veterinarian, \$2,000, Bureau of Animal Industry. Applications must be on file not later than the following dates: (a) November 6, if received from States other than those named in (b), (b) November 9, if received from the following States: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Plow-Up of Plains "Dr. Hugh H. Bennett, chief of the Soil Conservation Service, warns against being lured by the hope of war profits into plowing up more good pasture to make poor or indifferent cultivated fields," says an editorial in the Omaha World Herald. "Breaking the plains during the last war he said was the 'most costly plow-up in the history of the world,' not only in material damage but in frustrated hopes as well. The plow-up to which Doctor Bennett refers began long before there was any urge to 'win the war with wheat.' The impulse was land hunger. Under it men had been edging with their plows farther and farther into the grazing lands, experimenting with 'dry land' farming.....Without the war the movement would doubtless have gone on, accelerated one year, retarded another, but always advancing. It was a mistake, as Doctor Bennett tells us. But it wasn't the only mistake which has been made in caring for American soil. The millions of acres of eroded soil, which American soil maps show, including wind blown lands but gullied farms and forest areas, tell the story. We have been growing more conscious of this in recent years. Land conservation apostles get more frequent and more respectful hearing. But still we are inclined toward careless and wasteful prodigality with our soil. We can be lectured into a reversal of that policy or we can wait until we are forced to it, when the soil no longer produces surpluses, but barely suffices to feed our own people."

Research Pays "That research pays in profits as well as better
in Profits living is becoming a by-word in industry," says Watson
Davis in Science Today. "Here are fragments from the
chemical record as assembled by the journal, Chemical and Metallur-
gical Engineering. A small midwestern chemical manufacturer, through
research improving products and manufacturing, added 100 men to the
payroll since 1929. America's largest chemical concern added 7,300
jobs due to research and development achievements. An insecticide
and agricultural spray manufacturer increased employment 400 percent
since 1929 as the result of developing highly concentrated liquid
insecticides that can be applied by atomizing into fog-like mists. A
company serving the medical profession reports that new products
developed through research since 1929 now account for 40 percent of
current sales. A diversified operation that spends \$1,000,000 a year
on research and has brought forth improved safety glass, new phos-
phorus derivatives, medicinals, synthetic phenol and other organic
chemicals has doubled employees in about a decade, with 1,772 new jobs
directly traceable to research. Largest research expenditure by a
chemical industry is \$7,000,000 annually. Another organization put
\$1,000,000 into research laboratory and equipment. Largest backing of
a research development in recent years is \$10,000,000 for manufacture
of the first synthetic textile fiber made entirely from mineral raw
materials."

Dr. Mohler's Two farm papers have commented recently in their
Services editorials on the award to Dr. J. R. Mohler of the
International Veterinary Congress Prize. The Dakota
Farmer (October 7) says: "It is a great pleasure to note that Dr.
John R. Mohler, Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, was recently
awarded the International Veterinary Congress Prize -- the highest
honor which the veterinary profession of this country can bestow. Dr.
Mohler has headed the bureau for more than 20 years -- everyone who
knows him and his work has the highest regard for his scientific know-
ledge and his administrative ability..." The Pennsylvania Farmer
(October 7) says: "Dr. Mohler has been for many years a public servant
of the finest type. He deserves not merely the highest honor in his
profession but the gratitude of the public, particularly all concerned
in our great livestock industry. Tact, firmness and foresight have
all been essential in the direction of this work which means so much
to that industry and to consumers as well. That he and his service
have been found indispensable for all administrations at Washington
is another tribute to the character of the man and the quality of the
service. We hope for him, for the Department of Agriculture and for
the public many more years of such usefulness as has marked his past
labors..."

New Meat Tenderizer Botanists and biochemists at the University of California have discovered in milkweed juice an active substance that can tenderize meat as successfully as can papain, extracted from papaya, now used on a large scale for the purpose, says a Science Service report. At present, papaya imports amount to half a million pounds a year, costing several million dollars. The active principle of the milkweed has been named asclepain, from the botanical name of the plant, *Asclepias*. Interstate shipment of meat that has been treated with papain and other medically active substances is not permitted by Federal authorities. Not that papain is harmful, it was explained to Science Service, but it is held best policy for the consumer to administer such treatment himself if he chooses.

Grain Export Benefits The Department of Agriculture has reported that it was paying an export bounty on 16,735,000 bushels of wheat and flour sold in the three months ended on September 30. The bounty averaged about 32 cents a bushel. The department said flour to be shipped abroad under the export program was equivalent to 7,270,000 bushels of wheat. Because of the European situation and drought conditions in some producing areas here the program is being carried out on a conservative basis, it was said. (Associated Press.)

New Books The Federal Diary of the Washington Post has reported several recent books by government employees. Among them are: "Washington -- Nation's Nerve Center," a picture book by Edwin Roskam, of the Farm Security Administration photographic staff; and a book on government publicity, by James L. McCamy, assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture.

Water Storage A five-fold increase within six years in federal reclamation water storage, serving irrigation, flood control, city water supply and the generation of power, is reported by Commissioner John C. Page, Bureau of Reclamation. Since 1933, when forty-six reclamation reservoirs held 7,600,000 acre feet of water, storage has risen until it is now well over 35,000,000 acre feet or 11,000,000,000,000 gallons. The increase is largely the result of twenty-four new reservoirs. (Press.)

Sears Roebuck Record Sales Showing the largest four-week figure in the company's entire history, sales of Sears, Roebuck & Co., for the ninth period, September 11 to October 8 totaled \$62,505,149, an increase of \$12,690,331 or 25.5 percent over the total for the same period a year ago, T. J. Carney, president of the company has reported. Substantial re-employment and the improved farm outlook were cited by Mr. Carney as major factors in the advances. (New York Times.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXV, No. 12

Section 1

October 17, 1939

CIVIL SERVICE ASSEMBLY President Roosevelt, in a message yesterday to the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada, meeting in San Francisco, said that we must prove that democracy can work even in such critical times as these. "Raising civil service to the highest possible level of efficiency is of paramount importance," his message said. "The Federal Government has not been unmindful of its obligations to modernize its administrative machinery... Our strength as a Nation depends as much upon the states and municipalities as upon the Federal Government."

Samuel H. Ordway, Jr., former civil service commissioner, declared that "outstanding successful technical and professional workers" are not drawn to the Government service because of the delay and uncertainty on the time and type of appointment that may result from the examination system. He said improved promotion, recruiting, selection and training techniques were prime requisites of an efficient personnel system and that added study should be given the problem of obtaining adequate appropriations for maintenance of personnel administration for public agencies. (A.P.).

COMMODITY LOAN OFFERING Secretary Morgenthau yesterday offered \$206,000,000 of 1 percent notes of the Commodity Credit Corporation maturing two years and thirteen days from issue in exchange for a like amount of 18-month 3/4 percent Commodity Credit Corporation notes maturing November 2. At the same time the Secretary said the Treasury would ask for an additional \$50,000,000 of "new money" in its weekly bill offering later this week. The first of the new bill offerings with \$50,000,000 of new money was sold yesterday at an average interest rate of 0.033 percent, compared with 0.022 percent for the last of the \$100,000,000 regular weekly bill offerings a week ago. (Press.)

TOBACCO PRICE GAIN The first 50,000 pounds of bright tobacco sold on the Petersburg (Va.) market yesterday brought an estimated average of between two and three cents above the official average of 14.29 cents established last week, says an Associated Press report. A marked improvement in prices being paid for common grades of leaf was providing most of the price stimulus with the better grade leaf continuing to sell at from 24.5 to 28 cents a pound. Farmers are highly pleased with prices being received.

Government
Research

William E. Mosher, of Syracuse University, summarizes in the National Municipal Review (October) the recent annual conference of the Government Research Association. "It was recognized," he says, "that governmental research is carried on by a variety of agencies, such, for example, as governmental departments on all levels, by national associations of governmental officials, by bureaus of research, by taxpayers associations, and occasionally by civic reform organizations. Lately an undue emphasis seems to have been given to the research function of the Governmental Research Association, which consists in the main of men and women associated with bureaus of governmental research and taxpayers associations. Two basic ideas that have been somewhat neglected stand out as a result of the conference as far as these last named types of organization are concerned. The one is that research is simply one of several tools used by these organizations, the other that citizen support is a distinguishing feature of bureaus of governmental research and taxpayers organizations. These considerations lead to the proposal that in the future the Governmental Research Association should consist of citizen-supported agencies and their staffs. It was agreed that they have so many policies and problems in common that this limitation on membership is called for. In canvassing the functions of citizen-supported agencies it became clear that one fundamental function is the application and interpretation of facts as the basis for improving government, such application being directed toward two objectives. Broadly speaking, one objective is the development of better methods of administration and all that this entails among public officials themselves. The other is the development of public opinion among the citizenry in the interest of improving the character of government..."

Wheat Crop
Insurance

The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation has forecast that during the second year of its operation more than 300,000 insurance contracts on the 1940 wheat crop will be in force, compared with approximately 170,000 on which farmers paid premiums in 1939. The prediction is based on the fact that as of October 5 more than 272,000 paid-up applications for 1940 "all-risk" wheat crop insurance had been made by winter wheat growers in 31 states. Premium payments made by growers for 1940 insurance already amount to 9,902,000 bushels, compared with approximately 7,000,000 bushels during 1939. Leroy K. Smith, manager of the corporation, attributes the increased sign-up to wider understanding of the program by farmers as a result of last year's experience, and to the fact that growers may pay the premiums through advances against payments to be earned under the Agricultural Conservation Program.

Sugar-Beet Machinery E. M. Mervine and S. W. McBirney, of the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering, are authors of "Mechanization of Sugar-Beet Production" in Agricultural Engineering (October). "In addition to the two types of single-seed beet planters being developed by the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering and its cooperators," they say, "several manufacturers and individuals have been interested in the development of such equipment. One manufacturer of beet planters adapted one of its plate planting mechanisms to a runner opener drill in such a way as to decrease the distance of seed drop to approximately seven inches and used special small-celled, single-seed plates and special seed cut-offs and knockers or dislodging devices. Several of these experimental planters were built for use in the 1938 season. Another experimental single-seed planter tried out in 1938 was built by one of the sugar company representatives. This planter utilized a horizontal-axis, vertical seed plate or wheel with a double row of seed cells cut in the edges of its rim. The cells picked up seed balls as they passed through the bottom of the hopper, carried them down, and dropped them into the bottom of the opened furrow. To minimize the distance of seed drop this seed wheel was mounted in a runner type of furrow opener. Development is being continued on this type of planter by the sugar company interested. Other manufacturers are experimenting with new devices and adaptations of present planters for single-seed planting. In fact, development of this type of beet planting equipment is progressing so rapidly that considerable time is now being devoted to devising some simple, yet adequate, method of testing these planters and of working out the best methods of utilizing this type of planting for further and more complete mechanization of the blocking and thinning operations..."

Erosion in Terraces H. M. Wallace, Jr., of the Soil Conservation Service, in a short article in Agricultural Engineering (October) says that "the present trend in the control of erosion in terrace outlets is to design all types of vegetal outlets for a definite land use, to spread runoff over wide areas for the production of vegetation, and to use standard type mechanical structures only to protect overfalls or channels where vegetation cannot be economically used."

Seek Aid for Drought Areas The Drought Committee of the Department has reported that pasture and feed conditions have reached a stage of serious shortage in parts of Wyoming, Nebraska, Colorado, and South Dakota. N. E. Dodd, chairman, said the committee is formulating plans whereby agencies in the Department may assist stockmen who are faced with the alternative of shipping feed in, or shipping their cattle out of the drought area. The drought this year, unlike those of 1934 and 1936, is not widespread, declares Mr. Dodd. There are ample supplies of grain and roughage near the stricken areas.

One-Story Dairy Barn S. A. Witzel, of the University of Wisconsin, reports in Agricultural Engineering (October) that at Wisconsin they have had an increasing number of requests for one-story barn plans, "the trend being first noted back in the dark days of the depression in 1933...It is no longer a question of whether a one-story barn is better than a two-story barn. Requests are coming in for one-story barns, and we, as engineers, should take this opportunity to make new developments, utilize new ideas, and, in general, start planning our barns for the next fifty years rather than to continue building them as we have for the last fifty. From an engineering viewpoint, I believe the one-story barn idea is practical, especially for farms where one or more of the advantages offered by one-story barns are of great importance--for instance, the housing of a herd of valuable dairy cattle representing a lifetime of constructive breeding and savings. Further, because of the great technological developments which have taken place in the United States during the last decade or two, I can see no reason why we should not be able to greatly improve upon our present two-story barns...The one-story barn is here to stay, and the extent of its acceptance is largely dependent upon the development of the machinery for mechanizing the hay crop, the development of machinery for taking care of the chore job, the trend of hay-storage practices and the completed designs themselves..."

Nation-Wide Peach Survey "Back of the increased activity in nation-wide peach planting as pointed out by A. M. Musser (Bureau of Plant Industry) in this issue," says American Fruit Grower (October), "lies a studied plan on the part of each grower as to what varieties he sets in new plantings. American Fruit Grower, making its second annual variety survey, asked 105 fruit nurserymen what varieties their customers have been ordering for new plantings." "To the Elberta," it continues, "goes the honor of being the nation's most planted peach. Second is Halehaven, barely 10 years out of a cross between J. H. Hale and South Haven. Although it ranks a weak second to Elberta, the rapid rise in plantings of Halehaven denotes variety characteristics which are likely to challenge Elberta as soon as the variety becomes better known. The yellow-fleshed freestones are the leaders. Top variety among the early sorts in this group is Rochester, and for the late varieties Late Elberta is the favorite. Mikado (June Elberta) heads the yellow-fleshed clingstones, while Belle (Belle of Georgia) is the outstanding white-fleshed freestone with Champion a close contender. The white-fleshed clingstones are led by Early Wheeler and Mayflower."

Wis. Forest Cooperative The first forestry cooperative in Wisconsin is being organized in Chittamo, Washburn County, says a report in the Milwaukee Journal (October 8). Fred B. Trenk, Extension Service forester, aided in establishing the cooperative, with the help of the State Department of Markets and the Forest Service.

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXV, No. 13

Section 1

October 18, 1939

DEPARTMENT RESEARCH LABORATORY

Secretary Wallace, speaking today at the cornerstone ceremony of the Northern Regional Research Laboratory at Peoria, Illinois, said in part:

"Searching for outlets for farm products is not a new field for the Department of Agriculture...but the laboratories mark the first attempt by the Department to undertake a program on a nationwide basis. These laboratories are being created primarily to search for wider outlets for farm crops, particularly the surplus crops. But it is a comforting thought to know that this great research laboratory (in Peoria) and the other three that are under construction could be turned into research institutions for national defense should the occasion demand...

"The laboratory in Peoria will begin with studies on corn, wheat and agricultural by-products such as straw, stalks, husks, hulls and so on. If research in this laboratory results in the developments of methods that will enable industry to make, say motor fuel from corn, plastics from agricultural by-products and something else from wheat, that should give to farmers in the 12 North Central States whom this laboratory will serve a wider outlet for their products. ...

"Two types of research will be undertaken by these laboratories. One of these will be research into new fields in which little or no work has been done. The other will be research on what we may call waiting problems. Lower alcohol is a good example of a waiting problem since quite a lot of research has already been done in that field...We intend to search for information about the chemical and engineering problems involved in making motor fuel from all the important grains as well as other farm products. We plan to study the physical and mechanical effects these fuels may have on internal combustion engines, the economy of blending them with gasoline and the possibility of utilizing solid fuel made from farm products."

CIVIL SERVICE PROMOTIONS

The government is losing effective service because there is "no fair and open system of promotion" in government departments, Frederick M. Davenport, chairman of the Federal Council of Personnel Administration, said yesterday at the annual meeting of the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada. "Without a fair practice of promotion to higher positions throughout the personnel system, hope dies," declared Mr. Davenport. (A.P.)

Public
Service

Vital Speeches for October 15 contains "Improving the Civil Service," by Stanley Reed, Justice of the Supreme Court. "Deans of graduate and vocational schools would perform a great public service if they would take a greater interest in guiding their students toward public life," the speech says in part. "The close relationship between the Department of Agriculture and the agricultural colleges has resulted in great good to both by virtue of the constant flow of trained men into the personnel of that department. Likewise in the colleges, and high schools, the interest in public life is not as strong as one would like to see it. From these graduates, with their broad foundation of study, the Nation will draw its leaders for the future, not only in business, the professions and elective offices but also to administer the laws and guide the operation of the thousands of governmental units throughout the land. There is a growing tendency to broaden the number of and intensify the instruction in the courses on government. If in addition to this the academic leaders will add their influence towards inducing young graduates to enter public life as a career, it will greatly assist in increasing the number of suitable applicants. Obviously it is impossible for all the agencies and all the units of state and federal governments to send emissaries to the various institutions. Each, according to its plans and funds, seeks the best for itself. The officers of the schools, the employment bureaus, newspapers, advertisements all assist. But if we are to have a really broad interest in the public service as a career, we need wide approval of the opportunities public service offers..."

Weather
Forecasts

A new departure in weather forecasting is being tried at the new district office of the U. S. Weather Bureau, located at the Kansas City airport. If it works out satisfactorily it may be extended to other Weather Bureau stations throughout the country. The new procedure consists of making aviation and general weather forecasts at the same station, by the same staff. Hitherto, aviation weather forecasts have been made by special staffs working at airports. The new system, it is hoped, will save expense through elimination of duplicate equipment and through a better scheduling of the time of the personnel. A possible drawback, which must be avoided if the new system is to function properly, might be simultaneous demands for both aviation and general forecasts. The Kansas City set-up will also include a daily "breakfast-time" radio broadcast, already popular in Washington, D. C., and Baltimore. (Science News Letter, Oct. 14.)

Dr. Taylor

Dr. William A. Taylor, former head of the Bureau of Plant Industry, has been awarded a gold medal for achievement in horticulture by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. (Press.)

Marketing Activities Marketing activities of the Department, formerly in seven separate bureaus, have been coordinated into four bureaus under the reorganization plan, says A. G. Black, Director of Marketing and Regulatory Work, in Extension Service Review (October). These four bureaus, he says, are "the Agricultural Marketing Service, a new bureau; the Division of Marketing and Marketing Agreements and the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation, under single supervision; the Commodity Exchange Administration; and the Sugar Division. The Commodity Credit Corporation, transferred to the Department of Agriculture on July 1, 1939, makes possible deferred marketing by extending loans to producers who have agricultural products in storage as security... Grouping of these related activities, in their respective administrative units, offers the possibility of coordinated programs not easily possible heretofore. Functionally, marketing activities of the Department fall within three major groups. (1) Marketing research and service activities. This work, formerly handled by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, is now largely concentrated in the Agricultural Marketing Service...(2) Definite 'action' programs. These include marketing agreements through which producers can stabilize their marketing; diversion and new-use programs; and programs to remove price-depressing surpluses from the markets...(3) Regulatory work. This service has to do with the administration of various acts of Congress which set up 'rules of fair play' in the merchandizing of farm commodities... Correlation of these varied but closely allied activities is the responsibility of the Office of Marketing and Regulatory Work. It will also be its duty to lead in the development of unified and constructive policy in marketing work -- policy which will not only guide the Department but should also be of aid to the land-grant colleges as they carry out their State-marketing service..."

Corn Stalk Poisoning "For a number of years we have had called to our attention extensive losses among cattle that were turned in corn fields after corn husking had been completed," says Messrs. Schwarte, Eveleth and Biester, Veterinary Research Institute, Iowa State College, in Veterinary Medicine (October). "It has been noted that when horses die in certain localities due to the ingestion of moldy ear corn, cattle are not affected. During these seasons considerable rainfall keeps the corn unusually moist so that when early frosts appear, conditions favorable for the growth of molds prevail. Cattle apparently tolerate the agent associated with the moldy corn which kills horses. However, when directly opposite conditions prevail (dry seasons), many cattle may die when placed in the drought-affected stalk fields in the fall and early winter. During drought conditions the normal development of the corn plant is impaired, and it is usually free from molds. Ear development is retarded in varying degrees, depending upon the severity and time of occurrence of the drought conditions. Horses are not affected during this time. These observations have been confirmed by a number of veterinarians who have been practicing in given localities for many years..."

Teamwork in Agriculture

Some farmers who are asked their opinions about the merits of the government's crop control program, says an editorial in the San Antonio Evening News, would answer that they "would prefer to be turned loose to grow all the cotton, corn, wheat or potatoes they can, and then take their chances selling the produce on the open market. That is the traditional 'rugged individualism' in them. Nevertheless, 500 Texas farmers who answered the A. and M. College questionnaire recently could see good in the new AAA. The greater number agreed that educating farmers to save the soil and increase its fertility will prove lastingly beneficial to Texas agriculture. The second most important gain, they considered, is the widespread encouragement to diversified farming -- particularly stock-raising. A third benefit which will have enduring value is fostering a co-operative spirit among farmers...Teamwork is indispensable to successful soil-conservation, water-utilization, warehousing and marketing, as it is in introducing and testing new crops, improving cotton varieties and in game-farming. It may be a help even to living at home -- as through the co-operative cold-storage plant. Not least important, teamwork may provide farm children with better schools and farm families with books to read."

Kansas Tree Planting

"Kansas is becoming more tree-conscious than it ever was, due to the prolonged drouth which seriously retarded farm crops over the past seven years," says an editorial in Topeka Capital. "Under the Federal-state co-operative plan provided by the Clarke-McNary law, more than 238,200 trees were planted by farmers last year. The Federal Government put out millions under the tree planting program. Approximately 2,000 miles of ten-row tree hedges have been planted, and by the end of 1940, some 760 miles will have been set out...The Forest Service experiment illustrates the value of trees as an aid to agricultural production. One field near Great Bend, which had no protection, made six bushels per acre. Another, protected by a twenty-five-year-old growth of black locust, produced twenty-five bushels per acre. These figures were for the 1939 growing season, the crop having been harvested on September 15. The miles and miles of protective trees on 3,500 farms in thirty counties will go far toward protecting growing crops from hot winds. It is unfortunate that modern road-building methods brought about the needless removal of hedges planted during the late 1890's and early in this century...In time the damage can be repaired, and the Federal and state agencies are showing the way. But every person living on farms and in the cities must cooperate. Every person could do his state and community a great service by getting into the tree-planting habit. Kansas needs more trees, not only for beautification of the landscape, but for protection to its most valuable asset -- its agriculture."

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXV, No. 14

Section 1

October 19, 1939

DEMAND FOR FARM PRODUCTS

Conditions affecting the consumer demand for farm products continued to improve during the past month.

A rate of industrial output approximating the June 1929 peak may be attained before the year ends, but consumer incomes will still be about 10 percent less, due partly to a lower price level, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Increases in foreign demand for farm products due to the war may be relatively slow in materializing. The present sharp upswing of domestic industrial production no doubt is resulting in an accumulation of inventories in many lines. This may be followed by a considerable slowing down of industrial production some time during the first half of 1940. The timing and severity of this period of readjustment will depend partly upon how far the inventory accumulation is carried, the way in which actual domestic consumption and export demand develop, and how nearly the readjustment periods in the several important industries coincide.

GRAIN, SEED DIVISION

The establishment of the Grain and Seed Division in the Agricultural Marketing Service was announced yesterday by C. W. Kitchen, chief of the service. Effective November 1, the work now being carried on by the Hay, Feed and Seed Division and by the enforcement of the Federal Seed Act will be combined with the Grain Division. E. J. Murphy, whose appointment as head of the Grain Division was announced September 25, will be in charge of the new division. The consolidation of the three divisions, Mr. Kitchen said, will provide a more effective organization, both in Washington and in the field, for conducting the activities associated with the marketing of grains, hay, and seeds. The Grain and Seed Division will be charged with the administration of the Grain Standards Act and the new Federal Seed Act. Other activities include standardization and inspection of grains, hay, rice, soybeans, dry edible beans and field peas; seed verification and dockage inspection; and the dissemination of market news pertaining to grains, hay and feed stuffs.

GRADUATE SCHOOL COURSE

A survey of European agriculture will be the theme of a course to be inaugurated tonight by the Graduate School of the Department of Agriculture. Instruction will be offered Thursdays from 5 to 6:45 p.m. in Room 1031 South Building. Gordon F. Boals, of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, who recently returned after five years in the Berlin office of the Foreign Agricultural Service, is to conduct the course. (Washington Star.)

Drought Continues The soil-moisture situation shows but little permanent improvement, though the moderate rains of last week temporarily relieved conditions in much of the Midwest by favoring the germination of fall-seeded crops, says the Weather Bureau. Conditions are fairly favorable in the extreme upper Mississippi Valley, the Lake region, the Northeast, the near Southwest south of Kansas, and in most places west of the Rocky Mountains. New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, and Idaho show rather favorable seasonal improvement. However, unfavorable dryness prevails over much of the Great Plains, the central and southern trans-Mississippi States, and generally east of the Mississippi River, except in northern sections. Killing frosts extended well into the central portions of the country, with some light deposits reported as far south as northern Georgia. In some sections the freezing was somewhat earlier than in an average season, though little harm resulted, except in the case of late gardens and some tender-truck crops. Staple crops had previously matured generally.

Civil Service Examination The United States Civil Service Commission has announced the following examination: No. 110, unassembled; Principal Agricultural Economist, \$5,600, Senior Agricultural Economist, \$4,600, Agricultural Economist, \$3,800, Associate Agricultural Economist, \$3,200, Assistant Agricultural Economist, \$2,600. Optional subjects: 1. Agricultural History, 2. Commodity Economics, (a) Cotton, (b) Fats and Oils, (c) Fruits and Vegetables, (d) Livestock and Meats, (e) Milk and Dairy Products, (f) Poultry Products, (g) Seeds, (h) Tobacco, (i) Wheat and Grains, (j) Wool and Mohair; 3. Farm Finance, 4. Farm Management, 5. Foreign Competition and Demand, 6. Land Economics, 7. Marketing Research, 8. Rural Life Studies, 9. Statistical Research. Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Applications must be on file not later than the following dates: (a) November 13, if received from States other than those named in (b), (b) November 16, if received from the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Food Stamps for Madison Secretary of Agriculture Wallace has named Madison, Wis., as the tenth city for distribution of surpluses to needy through the food order stamp plan. He estimated there are approximately 8,500 persons eligible to participate in the plan out of Madison's 65,000 inhabitants. Two variations of stamp distribution will be used in Madison. Those receiving direct relief will receive free blue surplus food order stamps without being required to purchase orange-colored stamps. Those receiving cash relief will be given 50 cents worth of blue stamps for each \$1 worth of orange stamps purchased. (Washington Times Herald.)

Southern
Problems

"...Nearly every major Southern problem still stems from agriculture, and especially from cotton-growing," says George Fort Milton in an article, "The South Do Move," in the Yale Review (Autumn). "At the last census, the South had a little less than a third of the nation's population but well over half of the nation's farmers. Two years before the depression, its farm products had a gross value of three billions, against a little more than nine billions for the rest of the country. Its farm income average was \$519, against \$1,611 for the rest of the United States. Over half of its farms were operated by tenants, a fifth of whom owned neither animals nor implements; to such, farming was less a way of life than an extractive industry. Fertilizer bills take forty-one cents of every dollar spent on Southern farms...There are, however, a number of items to be entered on the credit side in the Old South itself. There has been a healthy tendency towards diversification of crops, and the farmers of many areas are turning increasingly to raising cattle and hogs, to dairying and truck gardening. Land to the north of the famous Black Belt is being applied more and more to other cultures. These tendencies illustrate the willingness of an important minority of the South's farmers to break the handcuffs of the one-crop system, and to diversify by using newer agricultural techniques. This is reflected in the statistics. Since the low point in the depression, the value of cattle the nation over has increased 97%, but in the South it has gone up 108%. The percentage of increase of income from cattle was, over the nation, 134; in the South 165. Such figures help explain why the South's increase in gross farm income was 5% more than the increase in the national average, and its cash farm income increased 19% more than the national average. New methods of refrigeration, the network of farm-to-market roads, the growth of the trucking industry, have all aided the diversification of Southern farming..."

Parachutes
for Fire
Fighters

Fire fighters soon may be jumping from airplanes in parachutes to put out blazes in Uncle Sam's national forests. In tests at the Chelan National Forest in the State of Washington, "smokechasers", equipped with fire-fighting tools, have been dropped successfully from planes in specially designed parachutes which may be steered. Officials said fire fighting by this aerial method would save thousands of dollars annually by enabling the Forest Service to get quick control of small fires in remote sections. Under present overland combat methods, such blazes often spread into devastating conflagrations before fighters are able to reach them. The aerial fighters wear special protective clothing. Their suits are made of heavy duck padded with sponge rubber. They also have headgear fitted with steel face masks and neck protectors and other devices designed to protect vital parts of the body from possible injury in landing. Under plans being tested, fire-fighting tools, a two-day emergency food ration, water, a compass, maps and a first-aid kit, and perhaps a light radio set for communication, would be dropped from the plane in a small parachute ahead of the jumper. (Washington Post.)

Live-at-Home "There is a saying in Secretary Wallace's home
Agriculture State that farmers ought to raise no crops except
 those that are self-transporting, meaning that corn
should be fed to hogs and cattle that may be driven to market," says
an editorial in the Raleigh News & Observer. "Mr. Wallace under-
stands that this Iowa saying is only half a truth, but there is so
much truth in it that North Carolina farmers ought to raise more poul-
try, hogs and cattle that have the power of self-propulsion. After
pointing out that tobacco farmers could be extricated from their pres-
ent plight only by reducing the quantity of the weed grown, the Secre-
tary of Agriculture stressed the old truth that a permanent policy of
'living at home and boarding at the same place' is essential...There
has been an increase in diversification on the farm, but it must be-
come general before agriculture in the South is on a sound basis.
Money crops are necessary, but fail to insure the best permanent course
without a live at home policy generally applied. 'Line upon line and
precept upon precept' alone will secure the sort of agriculture which
Mr. Wallace so wisely urged."

Brazil Buys Brazil has availed itself of an arrangement under
U. S. Gold which the United States is to sell to it gold up to
 \$60,000,000, the gold to remain in this country as
collateral for advances of dollar exchange to Brazilians needing this
facility for transactions with American business interests, according
to a Washington report in the New York Times. The arrangement was
made in 1937, but not until the past week was it carried into effect.
Then the first payments, aggregating about \$3,000,000, were made on
the gold to be held here. The arrangement is regarded by officials
here as a significant test of a device which might be applied widely in
Latin America as a means of using the vast United States monetary gold
stock to provide dollar exchange by which to do business here.

National Trees (October) in an editorial on the Save-the-
Heritage Redwoods League, says: "Since its inception the League,
 collaborating with the California State Park Division,
has been instrumental in saving, from the axe, over 40,000 acres of
virgin redwood (*S. sempervirens*) timberlands. These grand forests
happen to be located in California, but they belong to the Nation. The
latest conquest of the league is the announcement by Darwin Tate, Chief
of the State Park Division, of approval for the purchase of the 400-acre
tract in Humboldt County known as 'The Avenue of the Giants.' This is
considered the finest stand of redwoods in the world. In the purchase
transaction, State funds are matched by the Save-the-Redwoods League
to obtain the total of \$217,000. The State assumes the care and main-
tenance."

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXV, No. 15

Section 1

October 20, 1939

DROUGHT RELIEF

A combined drought and flood problem affecting 24 states led President Roosevelt yesterday to order an investigation of possible relief needs by the Farm Security Administration, the Works Progress Administration and the Surplus Commodity Corporation. The investigation was announced at the White House by Senator Hill of Alabama after he had gone over the problem with Mr. Roosevelt. At the Capitol, about 60 members of the House responded to Speaker Bankhead's call for a conference dealing with a need for flood and drought relief for farmers in the West and South. They decided to appoint a committee of five to cooperate with a similar committee of the Senate to discuss ways and means. (New York Times.)

"AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS"

The 1939 edition of "Agricultural Statistics" -- a statistical volume of 600 pages -- has been received from the Printing Office. Copies may be obtained by employees of the Department from the head clerk of the office of information in the respective bureaus or agencies. Suggestions for changes or improvements in the 1940 edition should be sent promptly to the Chairman of the Yearbook Statistical Committee, Joseph A. Becker, Agricultural Marketing Service, 2425 South Building.

CONSUMER'S FOOD DOLLAR

The farmer received about 40 cents of the consumer's dollar spent for 58 foods in the first 7 months of this year, the Department of Agriculture reported yesterday. The farmer's share of the dollar rose from a low level of 35 cents in 1932 to 45 cents in 1937, the department reported. The farm-to-retail price spread has remained remarkably stable in the last four years, but the share of the consumer's food dollar received by farmers has varied greatly. Farm price increases seem to have maintained a normal relationship to retail prices from August 15 to September 15, which period covers the first two weeks of the war, a department economist said. (Iress.)

URUGUAY TRADE TACT

Formal notice was given by Secretary of State Hull yesterday of his intention to negotiate a reciprocal trade agreement with Uruguay. United States imports from Uruguay last year amounted to \$5,357,000, while United States exports to Uruguay totaled \$5,060,000. (Iress.)

Chemurgic
Exhibit

"For the first time in Texas, chemurgy is being featured in a big way at the State Fair, October 7-22," says Victor H. Schoffelmayer, agricultural editor of the Dallas Morning News. "...One of the most striking exhibits is that of the Texas Forest Service. Paper from newsprint to white bond, rayon, cellophane, plastics, explosives, sugars, stock feed, ethyl alcohol, charcoal, turpentine, wood pitch and tar, wood alcohol, tannin, dyes, pineoils, lignin, resin, acetone, synthetic camphor, road binding materials and fertilizer are among the derivatives of wood. The exhibit from North Texas Teachers College features the sweet potato and its dehydrated products -- vinegar, sugar, lactic acid, face powder, explosives, starch, whole flour, syrup, agricrude alcohol, dextrine, cattle feed, blended flour and others...The exhibit from Sam Houston Teachers College shows paper made from the castor stalk and stems. Varnishes from castor oil, insecticides from castor leaves and rope from castor bark fiber also are displayed. The U. S. Soybean Laboratory shows nearly every conceivable product that has been developed from the bean: plastics from the protein (fountain pens and pencils, ash trays, etc.), oleomargarine and varnishes from the oil and soybean meal and cake...Flax is featured by the Texas Experiment Station...Paint and varnishes from linseed oil, protein concentrate feed from linseed cake and highly nutrient feed from meal are included in the exhibit...One of the leading chemurgic thinkers of the Rio Grande Valley, J. L. Heid of the U. S. Fruit and Vegetable Products Laboratory, has sent in an exhibit showing the canning, freezing, drying, and fermentation of Texas fruits and vegetables..."

Price-Rise
Prevention

"The chain stores of America have pledged themselves to do everything in their power to prevent the war abroad from disrupting distribution in this country, or leading to unnecessary increases in prices," says an editorial in the Dyersburg Gazette. "This is the gist of a letter recently sent Secretary of Agriculture Wallace by John A. Logan, president of the National Association of Food Chains. According to Mr. Logan, it is the desire and intent of organized distributors to aid in further improving methods of distribution; to make available when and as needed the experience and facilities of the distributors for purchasing, assembling, warehousing, etc.; to continue to cooperate with farmers in an effort to maintain satisfactory markets; to continue to maintain low profit ratios and reasonable spreads between the prices producers receive and consumers pay; to cooperate fully with agencies of government when emergencies may arise; and to assist in the development and execution of any needed plans and programs that may be proven necessary or desirable. That's good news for producer and consumer, many of whom vividly remember the chaotic conditions that obtained during the World War. No agency of distribution can do the impossible -- it cannot prevent natural price rises caused by supply and demand or other economic laws. But retailers can do much to prevent unnatural price boosts, and unnecessary dislocation of markets. And that is a service of immense importance to all America..."

Coffee
Plastic

In an article on plastic from coffee, the Bulletin of the Pan American Union (October) says: "The new plastic is a coordinate type of resin -- that is, a combination resinous compound is obtained by a catalytic process... It is made from green coffee, and is therefore completely odorless. As any grade of coffee may be used, and it makes no difference whether the beans are whole or broken, it is possible that in the future coffee drinkers will have only the very choicest quality offered them, for there will be no inducement to market inferior grades for beverage purposes. The process is relatively simple and inexpensive, for from the bean may be obtained all the bulk, plasticizers, and dyes necessary, without the introduction of any foreign matter... Coffee plastic can be produced in any color by treatment of its natural pigments, and in nearly any degree of translucency or opacity -- absolute transparency has not yet been obtained. Graining and marbled effects are achieved by varying the reaction treatment... The uses of the new material are many... Some of the practical purposes already apparent are: flooring; roofing; plastic products (novelties, buttons, moulded products, both colored and uncolored); wall board; trim; insulating material, against heat and in electrical appliances; and acoustic material. An important byproduct of coffee plastic is coffee oil, and experiments are being carried out to discover possible commercial uses for it. So far it has been ascertained that it may be used as a mixing oil for paints, etc.; for fertilizer and bacterial growth agencies; as a source of vitamin D; in insecticides; for medicinal purposes; and in soaps."

Cooperation

"We again mention that no government bulletin comes to our desk that commands our confidence so much as 'The Agricultural Situation' by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics," says an editorial in the Freehold (New Jersey) Transcript. "Here we learn the facts, as near as it is possible to gather facts on an industry so vast and varied as farming in America. In the September issue R. M. Evans, the head of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, reviews the agricultural problem and stresses one point of great significance. And that is that already eight-five percent of the farm operators are cooperating in the work by the AAA... The Transcript has long urged that cooperation among farmers would have to be led or headed by the Federal government to be a success. And, in effect, the AAA is doing just that. While much experience has been gained during the past six years it will take more years of testing to develop the plans best suited to different sections and different crops. The war will stimulate the sales of some crops and depress others. Undoubtedly additional legislation at Washington, as well as at state capitals, will have to be passed to allow the full development of nation-wide cooperative production and marketing..."

Regional Secretary Wallace, speaking this week to a farmers' Laboratories meeting in connection with the dedication of the Northern Regional Research Laboratory at Peoria, Illinois, said in part: "As to general policies guiding the work of the laboratories, the principle of 'first things first' will be followed. There are chronic surpluses of certain crops, and the intent of Congress is to focus the research work primarily on these crops. Nevertheless, we know from past experience that the agricultural surplus problem is not static, and plans ought not to be made on the assumption that it will remain fixed and unchanged. The work of the laboratories will be organized to take advantage of advisory committees of expert scientific men from Federal, State, and educational institutions. The Department of Agriculture will also hope for and will welcome the fullest possible cooperation from industry. This cooperation will, it is expected, make for speed. It will also make the results of the new laboratories of greatest value to the 'practical' research worker. It may even result in preliminary findings of the government laboratories being taken over at an early stage by those prepared to use them in accordance with the public welfare, in order that they may be promptly put into practice.

"It has been said that industry succeeds in new development most often when it invests what is known as 'patient money' in its laboratories. This means simply that even when industry selects projects of most immediate value, it can not expect results in a short time. This is still more true of government research, because the government should reach further out into the unknown than most of the industrial laboratories of the country. Furthermore, it is often necessary for the government to undertake types of investigation for which industry either has no immediate application or which it can not afford. Generally, therefore, government research must wait longer for useful industrial applications than does industrial research. As we go ahead with our research program, we should look to the longer future for our most valuable results. The work of the laboratories may possibly have a special significance because of the national emergency precipitated by the war in Europe. The supplies of a number of agricultural raw materials upon which the industries of this country are dependent have been curtailed and may be shut off completely. Much of our supply of root starches, drying oils and tanning materials comes to us from other parts of the world. If the war continues, this must be replaced by similar or substitute agricultural raw materials grown in the United States or in Latin America. In the development of new sources of supply and substitute raw materials, these laboratories will be useful. The time may come when we'll be mighty glad to have them as a part of our national economic defense."

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Section 1

October 23, 1939

1940 PARITY PAYMENTS

Terms under which the 1940 parity payments will be made to producers of corn, cotton, rice, tobacco and wheat have been announced by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. Payments, which are conditioned upon producers participating in the 1940 agricultural conservation program, will be made from the \$225,000,000 appropriated for this purpose. The provisions are similar to those in effect for the 1939 parity payments, but have been strengthened by these additional requirements: (1) That the producer plant within the total of the acreage allotments of corn, cotton, rice, tobacco and wheat established for his farm under the 1940 farm program; (2) that the producer not offset performance on the farm by overplanting the five commodities on other farms in which he has an interest. Rates of price adjustments will be announced later. Officials pointed out that the changes are intended to bring about a more effective administration of the program than has been possible under previous regulations. Under the 1939 price adjustment program a producer could qualify for a payment by adhering to the allotment for one commodity even though he overplanted the acreage allotment of another commodity on the same farm or overplanted the same crop or other commodities on another farm. The new provisions make it possible for the county or state AAA committee to withhold all or part of the payment in such cases under the 1940 program.

FARM AID COMMITTEE

Speaker Bankhead has appointed Representative Jones of Texas to head a five-member House committee to seek immediate federal aid for farmers left destitute by widespread drought and floods. Other members will be Representatives Hope of Kansas, Doxey of Mississippi, Caldwell of Florida and Case of South Dakota. (A.F.)

PACKAGING STANDARDS

Members of the Packaging Institute, Inc., holding their first annual convention last week in Chicago, set up the machinery for closer cooperation with the government on matters of standardization, labeling and other industry problems. The work will be carried out by a new committee on standardization, drawn from the production, machinery and supplies division of the industry. The institute will seek official labeling and other standards necessitated by the amended food and drugs act. (New York Times.)

Leisure for Farmers "In recent years, farm mechanization has received part of the blame for the ousting of cotton tenants from the land," says an editorial in the Dallas Morning News. "But almost every advance in mechanical development brings temporary unemployment and a period of adjustment. In the long run, the use of machinery will help farmers by enabling them to do their work with less effort and expense and to have time left for recreational and cultural activities. The tractor, the cotton picker, the corn picker and the wheat combine are removing much of the drudgery from farm life and making the sixteen-hour day less common. Members of farm families, though they still have plenty of hard work, have more time left now for reading newspapers, listening to the radio and attending community events...Lack of capital, the smallness of many farms and the rough contours of some land set limits to the advance of mechanization, for the present at least. The farm horse and the farm mule are far from obsolete. But those farmers who still oppose mechanical progress are engaged in a losing fight."

Dairy Report Principal developments in the dairy situation include a rapid decline in milk production due to the hot dry weather during the past month, continued heavy consumption of dairy products, a marked decrease in storage stocks, and a leveling off in prices after the rapid rise in early September. The improvement in business and pay rolls and the reduction of stocks of dairy products are important factors indicating improvement in the outlook, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The condition of pastures declined sharply during September in some of the important dairy sections in the mid-west. The deterioration in pastures caused a sharp decline in milk production per cow from September 1 to October 1. Total milk production was about 2 percent less this October 1 than last. The out-of-storage movement of dairy products in September was relatively large, in contrast with the net into-storage movement during September 1938.

Freight Rates Reductions of 25 to 35 percent in freight rates on on Vegetables shipments of vegetables from points in the Lower Rio Grande Valley to points in Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and parts of Kansas and Missouri have been agreed upon at conferences between the railroads and shippers, says a Harlingen (Tex.) report in the Wall Street Journal. The minimum weight requirement also has been reduced from 25,000 pounds to 18,000 pounds, and applies to both mixed and straight carloads. Proposed schedules will be submitted to the Interstate Commerce Commission for approval.

Timber
Salvage

"The Northeastern Timber Salvage Administration is to be congratulated on its recently announced policy covering the disposal of the more than half a billion feet of timber salvaged from last year's hurricane in New England," says an editorial in the Southern Lumberman (October 15). "This emergency surplus of timber hung like a black cloud over the lumber market, causing apprehension not only to those lumbermen dealing directly in the New England trade but to manufacturers of lumber all over the country...The administration has now announced, through Administrator Silcox, that 'to a maximum degree' logs in water storage will be disposed of to existing industries; that lumber owned by the administration will be sold 'to the maximum degree' in foreign markets (where there is an acute and growing shortage of softwoods); and that, 'so far as possible, pine lumber disposed of in the domestic market will be distributed through the regularly established New England distribution channels.' This policy sounds straightforward and fair enough, probably as workable a solution as could be devised for an admittedly difficult situation. Mr. Silcox, and all those others who collaborated with him in the establishment of this policy, deserve the thanks of the American lumber industry for their constructive and helpful attitude..."

Long-Storage

Wheat Tests

"Current interest in long-time storage of wheat suggests the need for information with respect to the relation between length of storage and quality," say Messrs. Robertson, Fifield and Zeleny, of the Colorado Experiment Station, in the Journal of the American Society of Agronomy (October). "Milling and baking tests (in cooperation with the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and Plant Industry) were made with eight samples of Marquis wheat and three samples of Kanred wheat stored at Fort Collins, Colorado, in a dry, unheated room for periods up to 17 years," they say in the summary. "There was a definite and fairly regular increase in fat acidity with storage, indicating a certain amount of progressive deterioration on storage. Satisfactory flour yields were obtained in all cases and unusual tempering was not required in any case. All lots made satisfactory bread, there being no indications of deterioration in baking quality in any of the samples. The best bread both from Marquis and Kanred was made from the 1921 crop, but the small difference as compared with later crops can probably be attributed to higher protein content. There was no apparent relation between deterioration in viability as shown by germination tests and baking quality."

Exports,
Imports

United States exports of pork, lard, and cotton were larger this August than last. Exports of wheat, apples, pears, and tobacco were smaller. Principal increases in imports were in hides and skins, wool, and tobacco. Less sugar came into the United States this August than last. (Agricultural Situation, October.)

Iron in Experiments just concluded at the Massachusetts
Molasses Institute of Technology show that old-fashioned
 molasses is about the best food known for treating
nutritional anemia. Spinach as a source of iron was debunked by the
research conducted by Dr. Robert A. Harris, Dr. John W. M. Bunker and
L. Malcolm Mosher. Whereas molasses has 6.1 parts of usable iron per
100,000 parts by weight, spinach has only 0.5. Beef liver has 5.6,
oatmeal, 4.6, with apricots, eggs and raisins following in that order.
The scientists computed usable iron, not total content, for only that
iron which the body can use to manufacture hemoglobin is valuable.
Both chemical and biological tests on rats were used. (Science Service.)

RFC Loans for Short-time revolving credits of as much as \$50,000,000
Export Cotton have been established by the Reconstruction Finance Corpo-
 ration for the Cotton Export Corporation, to aid in financ-
ing shipments of cotton for domestic use in countries not engaged in hos-
tilities, Jesse Jones, Federal Loan Administrator, has announced. The
credit is occasioned because of inability of the purchasers to get dollar
exchange to pay for the cotton before shipment and, in some cases, because
exchange is not available immediately on arrival of cotton at the point of
destination, Mr. Jones explained. The RFC will advance 80 percent of the
delivered price of the cotton against invoices, taking 80 percent of the
risks, most of which will be covered by war-risk insurance. Payment for
the cotton in dollar exchange will be made when the cotton is delivered
to the buyer abroad. The Cotton Export Corporation is a cooperative
undertaking by some twenty cotton exporting concerns. (New York Times.)

Insulating Governor Price of Virginia recently dedicated at
Board Plant Jarratt a factory which will make use of the vast natural
 resources of the South in the manufacture of insulating
board, says a press report. The new factory, the largest of its kind in
the world, makes insulating board from southern pine by means of a new
process. The factory will bring more than \$1,300,000 into the community
each year in wages, taxes and raw material costs, says the report.

Plans for Preliminary plans for a new building for the United
WB Building States Weather Bureau in Washington have been approved by
 the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the
National Commission of Fine Arts. Congress has appropriated \$250,000
for the purpose. Initial blueprints call for a building patterned some-
what along the lines of Mount Vernon, to face north on M street between
Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth streets N.W. Later on, it is expected
that wings will be built onto this structure along Twenty-fourth and
Twenty-fifth streets and that eventually the present building will be
torn down and the new offices for the bureau will be housed in a rectangu-
lar building with a central court. (Washington Star.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

October 24, 1939

FOOD STOCKS IN BRITAIN

The Institute of American Meat Packers, meeting in convention in Chicago yesterday, was told by J. S. McLean, president of Canada Packers, Ltd., of Toronto, that control of food purchases was begun by the Allies "with the first hour of the war." In Great Britain, he added, large reserve food stocks had been built up, including wheat, edible oils, frozen beef, canned vegetables, powdered milk, tea, coffee and sugar. The next step of the British Control Board, he said, was to take over for the duration of the war the total surplus production of primary products of all the colonies and dependencies and some of the dominions. The two food products for which Great Britain looks to North America are wheat and bacon, he said.

A London report by the United Press says that while British exports to the United States have not been drastically affected, imports from the United States are beginning to feel the pinch of war. One force leading to throttling of British imports to America is the desire of purchasing boards in the food ministry and other departments to buy as much as possible from the European sterling area, thereby helping Britain to conserve dollar assets.

MORE TRUCK LOADINGS

Ted V. Rogers, president of the American Trucking Associations, Inc., reported at the group's annual convention yesterday that truck loadings were up an average of 25 percent over a year ago. "Tonnage is at unprecedented levels," he said. "Within the last two months it has been steadily rising and indications are that the upward trend may be expected to continue well into spring." Net revenue has not kept pace with the tonnage rise, he added, asserting that, "because of competitive conditions within and without our industry rates have spiraled downward." (A.P.).

SOVIET PURCHASES

Purchases in the United States by the Soviet Union totaled more than \$10,000,000 last month, almost three times the volume placed here in September 1938, and more than twice the monthly average of the last six months, according to reports reaching foreign traders in New York yesterday. The orders covered purchases of productive machinery and large quantities of copper and rubber. Among the lines in which Russia will be an active purchaser in the coming months, it was said, is agricultural machinery. (New York Times.)

1939 Turkey

Production

"The 1939 production of turkeys has been officially estimated at approximately 32 million birds," says J. H. Radabaugh, Agricultural Adjustment Administration, in the Agricultural Situation (October). "This compares with 26 million in 1938. It compares with the previous high record production of nearly 28 million turkeys in 1936. Estimates indicate there will be more turkeys available for consumption this Thanksgiving and Christmas than ever before, nevertheless the increase will not be so great as may be assumed from production figures alone. The fact is that turkeys are no longer entirely a holiday season food. Production and marketing of turkeys is being extended the year round. Carloads of turkeys of this year's production have been going to market since last July. Producers are reported as marketing an unusually large proportion of their turkeys early this year -- approximately 12 percent through October as compared with 10 percent last year. A smaller proportion of this year's crop is to be marketed in November as compared with marketings in the same month last year -- approximately 38 percent as compared with 41 percent in 1938. This means a somewhat larger proportion for Christmas and later markets. Large quantities will go into storage. This will reduce the Christmas supply, and make turkeys available for the post-holiday trade which has developed in recent years..."

Seed Potatoes

Approximately 50,000 crates of seed potatoes were for Argentina shipped to Argentina during September bearing certificates of grade based on the U. S. standards, F. E. Bailey, supervising inspector at Yakima, Washington, for the Fruit and Vegetable Division, reports. All the stock was packed in special two-compartment export crates, which contain a net weight of 50 kilograms or kilos. Heretofore apples and pears have been the principal fruit and vegetable products graded according to the U. S. standards and shipped to our southern neighbor in large quantities. (A.M.S. News, October 16.)

New Early

McIntosh

The Montana Farmer (October 15) reports that there is a new early McIntosh apple that ripens a month to six weeks earlier than the later maturing variety. "The first McIntosh originated at the New York Experiment Station," it says, "but attained its finest quality and richest flavor in the orchards of western Montana. The new McIntosh was recently developed at the Corvallis branch of the Montana Experiment Station by crossing the original McIntosh variety with the yellow transparent. The resulting product, according to Station Superintendent W. E. Pollinger, is a beautiful red apple slightly smaller than the parent McIntosh but having the same pure white flesh and a flavor similar to and quite the equal of the original."

Pasture for
the South

"Two winter pasturage developments in recent years show tremendous possibilities for the southern stockman -- the fall seeding of crimson clover, 5 to 15 pounds per acre, and the use of Black Medic clover, 10 to 15 pounds to the acre, on permanent pasture sods," says an editorial in the Southern Planter (October). "Dairymen throughout Piedmont North Carolina have provided splendid legume grazing from December to May by seeding crimson clover on their pastures after the first soaking rain in very early fall. Black Medic can be seeded successfully anytime from now through March. It is particularly advocated for seeding on lespedeza stubble to hold the nitrogen stored in summer -- it actually increases soil nitrogen during the winter and spring months -- and to produce legume grazing in March, April and May. It reseeds itself in early summer as lespedeza and summer grasses come on."

"Pack Horse"
Libraries

Pack horse libraries are the outgrowth of a wish for reading material in the Kentucky mountains, says an article in Rural America (October). "In 1934 in Leslie County a Kentucky Emergency Relief Administration worker gathered together old, nondescript books, magazines, and pamphlets, and hired a young mountain woman who owned a white mule and a pair of saddlebags... One by one, three hundred and fifty-three pack horse library carriers were added until, at the present time, women ride horseback and walk an average of 26,182 miles monthly to deliver 39,293 books to 36,293 Kentucky mountain families...The Federal Government pays the carriers, all of whom are taken from relief rolls, a very small wage. It neither buys nor does it furnish any books. There are no funds with which to pay express upon volumes donated. Teams of oxen and carts have been contributed by the mountain folk to haul into their respective centers loads of books...Carriers hold regular conferences once a week at their centers. At that time they clip continued stories from old magazines which have been donated, and bind them into 'books' for distribution. Picture 'books' are similarly made from advertisements or such other material as may come to hand..."

Tobacco
Production

"The overwhelming vote of tobacco growers for re-turn to controlled production represents a victory for the AAA," says an editorial in the Columbia (S. C.) State. "Withdrawal of British buyers from the auctions, and other extraordinary conditions influenced the farmers but the top-heavy majority cannot be explained away on such grounds by those who oppose the AAA, or the economic philosophy on which AAA policies are founded. Faced with the possibility of losing much of the important export market, because of war in Europe, tobacco growers saw nothing to do but turn again to the plan which in 1938 they had rejected. And, if the export market or any great part of it is to be lost, unrestricted planting next year almost certainly would have resulted in low prices, unless growing conditions trimmed production sharply."

Carver Honored "A man who was born a slave, Dr. George Washington Carver, scientist of Tuskegee Institute, has been selected as a recipient of a Roosevelt Medal for 1939," says an editorial in the Memphis Commercial Appeal. "These awards are given annually for distinction in certain fields associated with the career of Theodore Roosevelt. Doctor Carver won recognition for the Roosevelt Medal as 'one of the foremost agricultural chemists in the country and as a vital factor in the economic and social progress of the South.' This shy, retiring man has done wonders in finding new and commercial uses for farm products of this region. He has found more than three score uses for the peanut alone. He makes no financial gain from his discoveries..."

Corn Crib, Grain Bin Farm Machinery and Equipment (October) reports that an Iowa company has just put on the market a new portable corn crib and grain bin. "Sectional construction of steel roof, wood sides and either steel or wood floor make it easily erected by anyone in a few hours. Seven continuous steel rod hoops guarantee permanence and prevent any chance of breaking open or spreading at any point, including the door. Wooden construction of the grain bin greatly facilitates grain moisture absorption and retards grain decay in storage. Creosoted flooring makes both crib and bin rat-proof.

Two-Row One-Flow A leading farm-machinery company has recently announced a new small tractor, according to Farm Implement News (October 19). This new tractor will cultivate or plant two rows of corn or cotton instead of only one. The seat and steering column are placed to the right as far as possible to allow clear vision. The operator sits over one row when cultivating, on a rubber-upholstered seat which can be tilted back out of the way.

Rural Sales Index Off The Commerce Department index of rural general merchandise sales, based on mail-order and chain-stores sales, dropped from 131 in August to 125 in September, but the September sales nevertheless equaled the September, 1929, sales. Sales exceeded the September, 1938, figure by about 10 percent and were about 2 percent in excess of the same month in 1937. (Press.)

Botanic Exhibits A series of five flower shows beginning about November 7 and continuing through Easter next year will be held at the United States Botanic Gardens, Washington. The exhibitions will include displays of chrysanthemums, poinsettias, azaleas, rhododendron bushes and Erabu and Creole lily plants. The chrysanthemum exhibit early next month will open the series. (Washington Star.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

October 25, 1939

RELIEF FOR DROUGHT AND FLOOD AREAS

President Roosevelt said yesterday three federal agencies would aid an estimated 115,000 farm families in drought and flood areas without seeking additional funds at the special session of Congress, according to a report in the Washington Post. These agencies will extend loans and provide food to needy farmers under a program drawn up at a White House conference attended by a committee of Senators and Representatives from drought and flood stricken areas.

Senator Bankhead of Alabama, chairman of the Congressional Committee, said the White House conference disclosed that the Disaster Loan Corporation had an unexpended and unobligated \$20,000,000 in flood relief funds which could be used to aid families in the flood affected areas of Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee and Kentucky.

The Farm Security Administration was said to have \$9,000,000 available for loans and relief grants to farmers in drought states, while the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation was said to have \$78,000,000 which could be used for food for humans. The Agriculture Department has asked the railroads to reduce rates on feed shipments into drought areas.

EMPLOYMENT IN FACTORIES

Increases in factory employment reported in August, September and the first two weeks in October indicate a return to industry of more than 700,000 wage earners, of whom less than 300,000 are seasonal workers, Secretary Perkins disclosed yesterday. To what extent, if any, the war situation is reflected in this increased manufacturing activity is not revealed by the reports received from industries and cannot be estimated, Miss Perkins said.

The preliminary reports for October, made public yesterday by the Department of Labor, show that among the major industries in which substantial employment gains were made were iron and steel, cotton goods, woolen goods, meat packing plants and electrical machinery and equipment. Decreases, except in the canning industry, were small and largely seasonal in character. Employment in all manufacturing industries increased nearly 100,000 from August to September and by something in excess of 200,000 from September to October, Miss Perkins said. (New York Times.)

FOODSTUFFS FOR GERMANY

Arrangements for transportation of 1,000,000 tons of Russian foodstuffs to Germany were being completed day before yesterday, says a Berlin report by the International News Service, following signing of an agreement between Soviet and German trade representatives in Moscow. The 1,000,000-ton purchase consists of cereals and fodder. Announcement of additional purchases of Russian foodstuffs is expected soon.

Cutover Region "The Human Side of Land Use" in Conservation Possibilities (September-October) is a condensation of an address by Raphael Zon, Director of the Lake States Forest Experiment Station. "The cutover region (of the Lake States) has considerable potentialities for agricultural development," it says, "but not in the old conventional manner as an individual farmer on a small tract of land struggling by himself. Cooperative farming, possibly on land leased from the federal government, states, or counties, with no mortgages facing the settlers, and the farm machinery bought and operated cooperatively, with cooperative marketing of their products, could tell an entirely different story." Some 137,000 people are now employed in agriculture in the cutover region, yet farming is confined only to about 6,000,000 acres of the 18,000,000 acres of land suitable for agriculture. Is it not conceivable that agriculture, if attempted on a cooperative basis, could afford employment to at least as many more people? The possibilities for profitable agriculture would still be greater if additional opportunities could be found for part-time jobs offering small cash income near the farm. This leads to the second great need in the region, namely, the need for small industries utilizing the raw materials still available in the region...There are many small forest industries which could be built up in the cutover region today if they were at first initiated, encouraged, and even subsidized by the public itself. Within national and state forests some of the timber which is often sold to fairly large operators could be sold in small lots to local operators or to cooperative groups of woodworkers. If private capital, because of the risks involved, is not attracted by these possibilities, the public has enough at stake to justify making the initial moves..."

Reclamation "A new policy for repayment to the federal govern-
Cost Policy ment of reclamation project costs is written into the new reclamation project act of 1939," says an editorial in the Western Farm Life (October). "The new act, passed by the recent congress and approved by President Roosevelt, provides a flexible plan for the repayment of reclamation project construction charges. This plan takes into account the ability of the farmers on a project to repay construction costs. 'This new legislation,' says John C. Page, commissioner of the bureau of reclamation, 'means much to new as well as existing projects.' In addition to providing for the extension of repayment periods under certain circumstances, the law makes it possible for projects to apply for a re-classification of lands that would be helpful to them. The legislation does not require that existing repayment contracts be modified. Any project may continue under its present contract if it prefers to do so..."

Trainload "An interesting case is to be argued before the
Rates Asked Interstate Commerce Commission on October 28," says an
 editorial in the Wall Street Journal (October 24).

"Railroads serving New Orleans are seeking to establish a 'trainload rate' on molasses from New Orleans, La., to Peoria, Ill. Up to the present time the Commission has never recognized trainload rates or any rates on lots larger than a single carload. The present request for the rate on trainload consignments -- 14 cents per 100 pounds, minimum 1,800 tons, i.e., 38 tank-car loads -- is motivated by desire to secure molasses traffic now moving on the Mississippi River in barges owned by the producer at New Orleans, destined to the same producer's plant at Peoria. The railroads seeking to put in this rate point out that it will be compensatory and refer to the report of the Federal Coordinator of Transportation on freight traffic which definitely recommended that rail carriers should follow the water lines in providing cargo rates. This report pointed out that transportation conditions have greatly changed from what they were in former times when the Commission established the carload as its maximum unit, and that that principle does not apply to modern conditions..."

Boron in "The frequent occurrence of boron deficiency on
Lined Soil overlined soils has led many investigators to conclude
 that boron becomes unavailable to plants under alkaline
conditions," say E. R. Purvis and W. J. Hanna, Virginia Truck Experiment Station, in a paper in American Fertilizer (October 14). Reporting studies of the influence of boron upon overlining injury to snap beans and tomatoes, grown in nutrient solutions, they conclude: "Boron was required for normal growth of both plants in both acid and alkaline solutions. The addition of borax alone to solutions made alkaline with lime water did not prevent overlining injury. The addition of both borax and manganese sulfate to alkaline solutions greatly reduced overlining injury. An overlined Norfolk fine sandy loam soil retained more applied boron after leaching than did the same soil in an unlined state, and this retained boron remained available to plants as evidenced by injury to subsequent crops. Overliming is not a primary cause of boron deficiency."

Farm Cash Farmers' cash income from marketings and Government
Income payments in September totaled \$347,000,000, estimates
 the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The September
income compared with \$643,000,000 for August and \$745,000,000 for September 1938. Income from farm marketings in September amounted to \$781,000,000, representing more than the usual seasonal increase from the \$601,000,000 estimated for August, and was 10 percent larger than the \$718,000,000 reported for September last year. Government payments totaled \$66,000,000 in September compared with \$42,000,000 in August and \$27,000,000 in September last year.

Livestock Situation Present indications are that the number of cattle and lambs fed in the 1939-40 feeding season will be larger than in the 1938-39 season, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The increase will be in the Corn Belt, as numbers fed in other areas probably will be reduced. Short feed supplies, brought about by drought, probably will result in a decrease in cattle and lamb feeding in the Western States. Slaughter supplies of hogs throughout the present marketing year, which began October 1, will be materially larger than a year earlier. An improvement in both domestic and foreign demand for meats and lard is in prospect for the next few months. The recent sharp increases in industrial production along with generally improved business sentiment probably will be reflected rather quickly in increased incomes of consumers and in a stronger demand for meats and lard.

Exports of pork and lard were reduced sharply in September; fixed prices paid in Great Britain for American pork and lard were low in relation to prices in this country during the month. The British fixed prices for cured pork, however, were substantially increased in October, and this probably will be followed by increased exports of United States bacon and hams. Prices of slaughter livestock declined unevenly during the last three weeks of September, following the sharp advance which accompanied the outbreak of war in Europe in early September. During the second week of October prices of hogs and lambs rose slightly but prices of cattle tended lower. During the past several weeks prices of feeder cattle have remained at about the level reached in early September, while prices of feeder lambs have tended slightly higher. Prices of all kinds of livestock in mid-October were materially above the low levels reached rather generally about mid-August.

Electric Fences The Michigan Farmer (October 21) in an editorial on electric fences, says: "Hundreds of farmers have purchased reliable commercial controllers that are giving service without trouble or danger. Others have accepted the statements of agents representing less satisfactory units only to find them rather costly. Some farmers have installed home-made outfits that are a constant menace to livestock and humans...The Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc., an independent and non-profit organization that tests electrical appliances and places the stamp of approval only on the better types, have prepared regulations that one may apply to electric fence controllers. Home-made units should be avoided unless they are battery operated. In considering commercial controllers one should ask the agent or representative to show you that their product meets with the requirements of the Underwriters' Laboratories..."

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Section 1

October 26, 1939

STABILIZATION FUND INTACT

A renewed pledge that the Treasury Department would consult Congress before using any part of the \$2,000,000,-000 stabilization fund to assist belligerents in the European war was made yesterday by Secretary Morgenthau in a letter responding to an inquiry by Senator Vandenberg. The Secretary repeated verbatim a section of testimony he gave before the Senate Banking and Currency Committee at the time the stabilization act was being considered for a two-year extension last spring. He added that the stabilization fund is not acquiring any currencies of belligerent countries, that it holds only small balances carried over from pre-war transactions and that it has made no new engagements under the "tripartite agreement" with Great Britain and France under which the fund was established. (New York Times.)

WHEAT STOCKS DECREASE

The Department of Agriculture reported yesterday that stocks of wheat in interior mills, elevators and warehouses and on farms on October 1 amounted to 494,755,000 bushels. Similar stocks on the same date last year were 575,796,000 bushels. Stocks in mills, elevators and warehouses on October 1 were reported to be 162,542,000 bushels, compared with 174,385,000 a year ago. (A.P.)

BRITISH CURB IMPORTS

Effective day before yesterday, the United Kingdom Board of Trade has restricted imports, except under license, of all classes of industrial and agricultural machinery, plant appliances and parts, components and accessories, including tractors but excluding locomotives, airplanes and other vehicles, the Commerce Department announced yesterday. Import licenses for machine tools will be issued only to importers on lists approved by the controller of machine tools. (New York Times.)

CITIES FOR FOOD STAMPS

Secretary Wallace yesterday announced selection of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota, as areas to which the food stamp plan will be extended. Operation of the program in the St. Paul area will cover all of Ramsey County, including the city of St. Paul, while operation in the Minneapolis area will be limited to the city of Minneapolis. Minneapolis has a population of approximately 500,000 and Ramsey County approximately 290,000, with 275,000 of these in the city of St. Paul. There is a total of about 52,000 relief cases in the two areas, representing around 130,000 individuals.

Agricultural Mortgage Debt "The farm-mortgage debt stands at approximately 7 billion dollars," says the Agricultural Situation (October) in a note on the article, "Thirty Years of Mortgage Debt" by Donald C. Horton. "This is the smallest figure in 20 years. It compares with the high record of nearly 11 billion dollars in the early 1920's. Farm-mortgage debt has been reduced markedly during the current decade, but is still much higher than in the years immediately preceding the World War a quarter century ago." "The peak in farm-mortgage debt for the entire period 1910-39 was in 1922-23, about 172 percent above the 1910-14 level," the article says in part. "Agricultural prices and land values had collapsed early in 1920, nevertheless the total farm-mortgage debt continued to rise in 1920, 1921, and 1922....After reaching an estimated total of nearly 11 billion dollars at the beginning of 1923, the farm-mortgage debt declined during each subsequent year except 1927. The decline during 1923 was moderate, but during 1924 it was greatly accelerated....Following a slight rise during 1927 the gradual decline continued down to 1932 when again foreclosures reached high levels and mortgage debt declined sharply. During 1932 and 1933 the total fell by about one-seventh. The decline since 1933 has been gradual with the greatest decline for any year being in 1936. About one-half of the decline of mortgage debt from January 1, 1929 to 1939 occurred during 1932 and 1933, and about one-third in the 5 years from January 1, 1934 to January 1, 1939. The total farm-mortgage debt of approximately 7 billion dollars outstanding on January 1, 1939 was 27.6 percent below the total for January 1, 1929 and about 34 percent below the peak reached in 1922-23. The farm-mortgage debt now stands at a level approximately equal to that in 1918 and is about 2.2 times the total on January 1, 1910..."

Hunting on Farms "A total of 108 farmer cooperative clubs are controlling the hunting on some 495,248 acres in 24 Michigan counties this fall," says an editorial in the Michigan Farmer (October 21). "This does not mean that hunters who are thoughtful of the rights of farmers will be denied the privilege of seeking game, but it is a notice to the lawless and reckless individuals that they are no longer welcome, and the farmers who grow and feed the game are organizing to protect their property and their lives. These cooperatives are beneficial to the true sportsman."

Articles on Department The Washington Star (October 22) contains two articles on the work of the Department: Science Enlisted for Farmer to Find New Riches in Crops (regional research laboratories) by C. Belmont Faries; and Federal "Food Detectives" Protect Consumers Against Poisonous Bacteria, by Eleanor Reynolds.

Oats, Barley In recent years the cash income received by
Income Report growers of oats has been less than half as large as it
 was in the years just before the World War, according
to a report by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. This report
contains a record of farm income from oats and barley covering each
year from 1910 through 1938. The long decline in income from oats
has been caused largely by the reduction in requirements for feed for
horses and mules in cities. The smaller export demand and the lessened
amount of barley used for industrial purposes has accounted for the
decline in income from barley. During the war years income from oats
increased until in 1918 it was two and one half times the 1910-14
average. But following the war there was a sharp decline and with
various ups and downs the income by 1934 had fallen so low it was
only 23 percent of the pre-war average. That particular year reflected
the serious drought and short oats crop as well as a low price. Since
1934 there has been some improvement but on an average the growers of
oats are still receiving a relatively low income from that crop. In a
general way the income from barley has followed the same trend as that
from oats.

"Potato
Pioneers"

 In "Potato Pioneers" in New England Homestead
(October 21) C. B. Maits, Jr., tells how Aroostock
County (Me.) potato growers are practicing erosion control. "George
Henry Stone is one of the pioneers," the author says. "He admits
that the heavy rains stole his soil and fertilizer away faster than
he could figure out ways to stop the losses under the system of farm-
ing he used until three years ago. In 1937, with the help of erosion
specialists from the Soil Conservation Service, Stone gradually began
to change his farm from a patchwork quilt of square fields to a field
arrangement that bent to the roll and pitch of the slope. Up and down-
hill potato rows gave way to curving contour rows that followed the
level so that each ridge opposed a constant barrier to the downhill
rush of water from Aroostock's sudden heavy summer showers. In a
natural field drainageway, where gully filling had been a perennial
chore, Stone sowed soil-holding grass to line the drainageway with a
tough sod that not even a cloudburst could budge. As other growers
found out that potatoes didn't rot in the ground when their hillside
fields were laid out across the slope, instead of up and downhill,
use of the new curved, erosion-free farming began to spread... Since
1937 more than a hundred farmers have adopted conservation farming
systems for their fields in a 30,000 acre demonstration area. Today,
George Stone and a few of the older potato men in this area have
been pioneers twice. In a frontier country still so new that wild
bull moose have been known to lose their way into a town, they have
lived to start a method of conservation farming that will stop soil
exploitation..."

Drought Is Another week of extremely dry weather, augmented Widespread by abnormally high temperatures, has intensified droughty conditions in most sections of the country, says the Weather Bureau. The drought is unusually widespread, extending during the last few weeks into the Southeastern States. At the present time surface-soil moisture is fairly favorable in Michigan, most Atlantic coast sections north of the Potomac Valley, and in Florida. Also conditions have not become acute as yet in Alabama, Texas, and a few other local areas, but otherwise there is urgent need of moisture everywhere from the Rocky Mountains to the Atlantic coast. Some interior sections report less than 1 inch of rainfall during the last 9 weeks. In the Great Basin of the West, especially Utah, conditions are favorable, while recent moisture has been helpful in the north Pacific coastal areas. Farm work made good progress, except it is too dry for plowing and fall seeding over large sections. In Northern States there has been no material frost damage this autumn as staple crops had matured before frost.

The week brought no relief to droughty conditions that have prevailed for a long time in practically all the principal small-grain producing sections of the country. There was not only no appreciable rainfall during the past week, but abnormally high temperatures made the lack of moisture more effective and rain is needed badly practically everywhere between the Appalachian and Rocky Mountains. In considerable portions of the Great Basin of the West conditions are favorable and are mostly satisfactory in Texas, but otherwise there is an urgent need of moisture, except in parts of the Lake region and some sections of the Northeast.

Ethics of Advertising William Allen White writes in the November Atlantic Monthly on "The Ethics of Advertising." "We must not forget that a generation ago our advertising agencies tried to check the passage of the Pure Food and Drug Act," he says in part. "They did cripple it. Certain agencies within the last eighteen months have tried to check just and equitable laws directed at fraudulent advertising and merchandising of injurious food, poisonous drugs, and shoddy clothing. The force of this evil influence in our democratic institutions is too real to be minimized. But this is no time or place to 'pass a law' controlling the advertising agencies. First of all, public opinion must continue to work. The social conscience of men who run advertising agencies must be quickened. Publishers who sell their advertising space through the agencies must face the reality of potential corruption. Finally, the patrons who buy goods which advertisers would sell must look sharply to see that they, as purchasers, are not abetting bribery in its most insidious form. Indeed, all three partners in the function of advertising must come to understand that this force, centred in a dozen national advertising agencies with power to thwart free democratic purpose, cannot be exercised without honest caution, without high patriotism..."

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Section 1

October 27, 1939

WALLACE ON TRADE BARRIERS "Pressure groups" were described by Secretary Wallace yesterday as an integral part of the American scene, says an Associated Press report from San Francisco. "No pressure group in America can successfully abuse its power at the expense of the general welfare," he told the Western Conference on Governmental Problems. "It may succeed for a while, but it cannot succeed for very long if our democracy is functioning properly. There is no sense in deploring pressure groups, for they are a component part of democracy and have been active on the American scene for 150 years; what is important is that there exists such a tension between competing pressure groups that no one pressure group can be powerful enough to dominate the public will."

He blamed the pressure of economic groups largely for the "absurd lengths" to which economic barriers have been erected between states. He particularly protested the "expensive and irksome" regulations some states have placed on interstate trucking. Mr. Wallace suggested three ways to prevent state "protective laws from having damaging results on the public generally, as well as on those groups they were designed to protect." He suggested that Congress could regulate interstate commerce, but this, he said, would be "expensive and require much legal activity." The states could get together and adopt uniform laws, but this, he went on, would "seem hopelessly optimistic." Joint federal-state action, with each supplementing and reinforcing" the other, he said, "offers the most hope."

FARM EXPORTS INCREASE TRADE Foreign trade of the United States in September increased in value compared with both August and September, 1938, with war conditions playing a part in both export and import trade, the Commerce Department announced yesterday. Total exports in September were \$288,573,000, compared with \$250,837,000 in August.

The rise in exports, including re-exports, which amounted to about 15 percent, mainly was accounted for by increases in shipments of agricultural products, including raw cotton, dried and canned fruits, lard, flour and corn. Shipments of tobacco, however, were unusually low for September, although they showed some increase over shipments in August. (New York Times.)

EMPLOYMENT Due to the sharp business upturn and consequent re-employment, unemployment benefit payments in September dropped 24 percent below the August total, the Social Security Board announced yesterday. (Press.)

Pack Mules
in Forests

"The mule, replaced in the furrow by agricultural mechanization, has taken refuge in the mountains where another field of endeavor has been opened," says Lew Nichols, Forest Service (Missoula, Montana) in an article in Western Livestock Journal (October 10). "Centrally located in the Northern Region -- one of the ten administrative divisions into which the Forest Service is divided -- is a Remount Depot from which complete emergency pack outfits may be sent to needed locations with a speed that is amazing to those unfamiliar with the setup of the system. Upon receipt of a fire call, an alarm bell starts the crew into immediate action. The truck is backed to the loading ramp by the corrals, and nine mules and a saddle horse are slipped into their places in the truck. Heavy goggles are strapped over the animals' eyes to enable them to withstand the wind caused by fast travel. Since saddles and other necessities are already loaded the truck driver and packer climb aboard and the truck rolls away, sometimes in as little as fifteen minutes after the alarm first sounds. Trained in the intricacies of truck travel, these mule strings are not troublesome enroute, even though on good straight roads the truck travels at fifty miles an hour...At the same time that the mule string is leaving the remount depot, another truck or convoy of trucks is leaving a Forest Service warehouse somewhere close to the fire, and will arrive at the designated end-of-the-road spot probably ahead of the mule truck. This outfit will be loaded with carefully roped and balanced packs of tools, grub, cook outfits and other necessities, all of which are in units so sized and shaped that they may be slung on the mules' backs a few moments after the mule truck arrives. Meanwhile a local man, familiar with the country, awaits the arrival of the packer to show him proper trails and give such additional directions as may be necessary. A mule is more desirable than a horse as a pack animal. Principally it is due to his disposition, in that he naturally is inclined to 'follow the leader' and with proper training at an early age this is turned into a highly valuable asset by mule handlers of the Forest Service..."

Tung Oil
Supplies

"It is too bad that a new agricultural industry is being jeopardized by high-pressure promotion methods," says an editorial in Country Gentleman (November). "The production of tung oil might become an important added source of farm revenue in this country if it were allowed to develop in a sane, orderly way. With the Japanese navy in control of all important Chinese ports, bottling up the normal flow of exports, the American paint and varnish industry is hard pressed to get tung oil at reasonable prices... The tung tree can be grown, and is being grown on limited acreages, in our own Gulf Coast states...During the past few years, the agricultural press has had a good deal to say about tung oil as an American crop, and in several parts of the South the real estate promoters have taken

advantage of this publicity and are again reaping a harvest from unwary investors. Some offices have staffs of a dozen or more glib salesmen who paint the picture in bonanza terms. Tung oil is not a bonanza crop. If land is shrewdly selected and obtained at reasonable prices, if the climate is right, if the owner is sufficiently financed to wait five or six years for the tree to reach bearing age -- then a tung grove is apt to be a good investment that pays a nice, but not fantastic, return. Moreover, the owner must be able to weather the bad years when an unreasonable frost wipes out the crop, for the tung tree is very sensitive to cold. The tung industry went through one damaging period of wildcat promotion a decade or more ago. Apparently it must weather another similar era before it lands on its feet..."

Virginia The Richmond Times Dispatch says in an editorial
Farm Youth that at the annual convention of the Future Farmers
 of America this year, eight young Virginia farmers
received the American Farmers degree and the Virginia Future Farmers
of America placed fourth in the contest for state association awards;
that in 1937 and 1938 Virginia boys won the title of "Star Farmer of
America" and the cash prize of \$500 awarded annually by the Kansas
City Star; and that in 1938 the South Hill (Va.) Chapter of the
Future Farmers of America won the annual award for the best chapter
in the United States. "Virginia's next generation is winning more
than its share of honors," it continues. "It means that agricultural
education in Virginia high schools, and the courses of practical in-
struction given by that important citizen, the county agent, are bear-
ing fruit in the fields. The plantation system has been breaking up
in Virginia for many years. Farms have been growing smaller, and the
tendency has been for farm boys and girls to migrate to the cities...
There have been many results of the migration of youth in Virginia
but one of the most serious has been the depletion of the soil re-
sources of the State by the unambitious farming of those who have
planted the same crops year after year, and have been content with
a bare subsistence standard of living. The men who are graduating
from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and going out to teach in the
county high schools, and to work as county agents, are putting youth,
ambition, and education, to work on Virginia farms."

Maturity Law This is the first season in many years when the
for Citrus citrus movement in Florida did not open late in August
 or the early part of September. This delay in the
opening, it is said, was the direct result of the new maturity laws,
which were designed to curtail the movement of immature fruit. These
maturity laws not only call for more rigid chemical tests, but they also
prohibit the picking of citrus fruit until it shows a "natural break in
color." "The Florida citrus industry is putting forth superhuman effort
this year in view of the new maturity laws to assure only the receipt
of ripe, acceptable Florida citrus on the markets," according to L. W.
Marvin, advertising manager of the Florida Citrus Commission. (California
Citrograph, November.)

Better Butter "Research under the direction of Dr. C. D. Dahle and D. V. Josephson, at the Pennsylvania Experiment Station, shows that the addition of an extract of oat flour to sweet or sour cream prior to pasteurization and churning materially improves the keeping quality of the resulting butter," says Lester H. Hartwig, assistant agricultural editor, Pennsylvania State College, in Country Gentleman (November). "In the experiment work, Dahle and Josephson used sweet, sour, and very poor, yeasty high-acid creams. All were churned and worked under identical conditions. The effectiveness of the use of oat flour in controlling oxidation in stored butter was marked. In the case of butter made from sweet cream and stored at a temperature of 40 to 45 degrees Fahrenheit, the control sample dropped from an original score of 92 to 90 during the eight-week period of storage. A sample treated with the proper oat flour mixture and stored under identical conditions had an initial score of 92 and a final score of $91\frac{1}{2}$. Naturally, the initial scores of butter made from cream of poor quality were rather low, but the oat flour mixture afforded almost complete protection against oxidation during the first four weeks of storage at a temperature of 40 to 45 degrees."

Western Roads Reduce Fares Round-trip coach fares in western railroad territory are being temporarily reduced to 1.8 cents a mile, effective December 15, compared with 1.9 cents a mile at present, Hugh W. Siddall, chairman of the Transcontinental-Western Passenger Association, announced. He said the reduction is being made to encourage larger holiday traffic on the railroads and expressed the hope that public response would be sufficient to permit the lower rate to be made permanent. Present one-way coach fare in western territory is two cents a mile. (Wall Street Journal, October 26.)

Trade Study Committee A coordinating committee of five representatives from government agencies interested in Latin American trade has been formed to study Latin American trade problems and prevent duplication of activity by the various government agencies. The committee, headed by Assistant Secretary of State Grady, was selected from the interdepartmental executive commercial policy committee, a group formed to study all United States trade problems. Other members of the coordinating committee are Undersecretary of the Treasury Hanes, Undersecretary of Commerce Noble, Warren Pierson, President of the Export Import Bank, and L. A. Wheeler, head of the foreign agricultural service of the Department of Agriculture. (Wall Street Journal.)

Tropical Garden A new tropical flower garden in the main conservatories at the New York Botanical Garden, Bronx Park, will be opened formally Friday afternoon, November 3. The garden will be open to the public the following day. The occasion also will mark the opening of the season's indoor floral displays, in which from 2,000 to 5,000 pots of flowering and foliage plants are exhibited. (New York Times.)